

**Proceedings of the Public Hearing conducted on 09.05.2017 in connection with application filed by M/s Geminy Acid & Fertilizers (P) Ltd., Village Harjiana, Tehsil Garhshankar, District Hoshiarpur for obtaining environmental clearance under EIA Notification dated 14/9/2006 for establishment of an industrial plant for manufacturing of Single Super Phosphate (SSP) @ 300 TPD and granulated single super phosphate (GSSP) @ 350 TPD in the revenue estate of Village Harjiana, Mahalpur Jaijon Road, District Hoshiarpur.**

The following were present to supervise the proceedings:-

1. Sh. Vipul Ujjwal, IAS,  
Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur.
2. Sh. Rajiv Sharma, Environmental Engineer (Mega)  
Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala.
3. Sh. Arun Kakar,  
Environmental Engineer,  
Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur.

Environmental Engineer (Mega), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala welcomed the Supervising-cum-Presiding Officer and people from adjoining towns/villages, who came to attend the public hearing of this project. He informed that an application was filed by M/s Geminy Fertilizer Ltd., with the MoEF&CC, Govt. of India, New Delhi for getting Environmental Clearance under EIA notification no. 1533 (E) dated 14.9.2006 for establishment of an industrial plant for manufacturing of Single Super Phosphate (SSP) @ 300 TPD and granulated single super phosphate (GSSP) @ 350 TPD in the revenue estate of Village Harjiana, Mahalpur Jaijon Road, District Hoshiarpur. After considering the application of the industry, the MoEF&CC had issued 'Terms of Reference' to the industry for preparation of draft EIA study report. Now, the industry has submitted draft EIA report to the Punjab Pollution Control Board for conducting public hearing of the project as per the procedure prescribed in the EIA Notification dated 14.09.2006. Environmental Engineer (Mega) appraised the public present there about the requirement of conducting the public

hearing before deciding the application filed by the industry for getting the said clearance for establishment of the project at the said site. He also brought into the notice of public that a copy of the draft EIA report alongwith the Executive Summary of the same submitted by the industry to the Punjab Pollution Control Board was placed in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur; Zila Parishad, Hoshiarpur; General Manager District Industrial Centre, Hoshiarpur; Regional Office of MoEF&CC at Chandigarh; Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Hoshiarpur for access to the public and other stakeholders. He further brought out that a notice of public hearing was published in two prominent newspapers namely, The Tribune and Ajit on 04.04.2017 to make the public aware of the date, time & venue of the public hearing and about the places/offices, where the public could access the draft EIA report and its Executive Summary report before the said hearing. Thereafter, he requested the representative of the project proponent, who is the Environmental Consultant of industry to elaborate about the main features of the project and the draft EIA study report.

Sh. Om Parkash of M/s EQMS India Pvt. Ltd., Environmental consultant of the project proponent brought out the details of the project before the public as under:-

## 1) PROJECT DESCRIPTION

M/s Geminy Acid & Fertilizers (P) Ltd. at Village: Harjiana, Tehsil Garhshankar, District Hoshiarpur, Punjab is proposing a new Single Super Phosphate (SSP) Manufacturing Unit at a capacity of 300 TPD and Granulated Single Super Phosphate (GSSP) of capacity 350 TPD, with an investment of Rs. 8.30 crores.

### Salient Features of the Project

<b>Project Status</b> (New/ Expansion/Amendment)	New	
<b>List of Products</b>		
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name of Product</b>	<b>Quantity TPD</b>

1.	SSP	300
<b>Total cost of Proposed Project</b>	Rs. 8.3 crore	
<b>Plot area</b> (sq. meter)	Total Plot Area-40,468.56 m <sup>2</sup> Manufacturing Unit area- 9100.88 m <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Green belt area/Tree Plantation area</b> (sq. meter)	33% of the Plot area	
<b>Source of Water Supply</b>	Ground water (Bore well)	
<b>Water consumption</b> (KL/day)	Total Water requirement 61 KLD.	
<b>Waste water generation</b> (KL/day)	Industrial: Nil. (the scrubbed water is fully recycled back for acid dilution in the process) Domestic: 3.0 KL/day(disposed through soak pit )	
<b>Mode of Disposal</b>	Industrial: Zero Industrial Waste Water discharge plant. (generated waste water will be completely recycled in the process). Domestic: Sent to septic tank followed by soak pit	
<b>No. of Boilers/TFH/Furnaces/DG sets etc. with capacities</b>	1 DG set (300 kVA) (standby)	

#### Details of the Raw Materials and other requirement

S. No	Raw Material	State	Consumption	Mean of storage	Hazard involved	Storage capacity (Tonne)	Control Measure Provided
1	Rock Phosphate	Solid	0.591 /ton	Loose	None	2500 MT	Covered Shed
2	Spent Acid	Liquid	0.372 (98%basis)	Brick lined MS Tank	corrosive	Spent Acid - 250 MT	Isolated storage with Dyke Wall

- **Land:** Total land area for the project is 40,468.46 sq. m. About ~33% area shall

be kept for greenery and greenbelt development.

- **Employment:** Approx. 60 employees will be hired initially for the present set up of plant and it will increase depending up on the future growth of the plant
- **Power Requirement:** 1000 KVA, Source : Power Grid. . A 300 KVA, DG set for power backup.
- Fresh water requirement 61 KLD; Source Borewell

S.No	Stack Attached to	Type of Fuel	Stack Height in m	Fuel consumption	No. of Operating Hours
SSP Plant					
1.	DG Set (300KVA) (Common for both the plant )	HSD	5 m	32 Lit/Hr.	Emergency use
2.	Hot air generator (Granulation Unit)	Furnace Oil/coal	--	3.0 KLD	20 hrs

## 2) Mitigation measures for different Environment parameters

**A** Regarding anticipated air pollution & its remedial measures:

### Construction Phase:

- All the safety measures prescribed in code for building and construction will be followed.
- Personal Protective Equipment's (PPEs) will be provided to all the workers.
- Regular monitoring of Construction activity and PPEs provided to the workers by the contractor will be done.
- Sprinkling of water in roads, open area of factory premises will be done.
- Speed of vehicles inside the factory premises will be controlled.

### **Operation Phase (Fugitive Dust):**

- Special care will be taken for the handling & transportation of the raw material within the premises.
- Sprinkling of water in Road, near construction sites, open ground area of the factory premises
- Speed of vehicles inside the factory premises will be controlled.
- Already developed greenbelt will be retained as such and will be strengthened.
- Closed loop system will be adopted to reduce the workers exposure to hazardous chemicals during manufacturing process.
- Proper personal protective equipment will be provided to the workers.
- All trucks will be transported after covering from the top.
- Raw material handling will be done by mechanized system.
- Material handling in the plant will be done ensuring fugitive emission is avoided.
- All the trucks being used for transportation of raw material and final product shall be checked for "Pollution Under Control" certificate prior to their entry to the plant premises.

### **B. Regarding anticipated water pollution & its remedial measures:**

M/s Geminy Acid and Fertilizer Limited (GAFPL) will take ample precautions to reduce water consumptions and reuse / recycle effluents generated. All the industrial effluent generated from the proposed project will be recycled back in the process itself and there will no effluent discharge from the unit. Only effluent generation will be in the form of domestic effluent, which will be treated in septic tank and discharged into soak pit. No impact on ground or surface water is envisaged due to the project and hence,

the impact on water is negligible. Recycle & reuse of all the industrial effluent shall be adopted in the project to conserve the water resources.

M/s Geminy Acid and Fertilizer Limited (GAFPL) will require 61 KLD water. Water will be sourced from bore well. The Effluent discharge will be Nil as the unit will operate on a principal of "Zero Liquid Discharge". Thus, the proposed project will have no adverse impact on surface water resources. The fresh water requirement for the proposed project will be used for dilution of Sulfuric acid, absorption of Hydro Fluoro Silicic Acid in scrubber, domestic and for plantation purpose. For assessing the quality of water in the study area samples of water (ground & surface) were collected and the results of water samples have been given in the detailed Rapid EIA Report.

### **C Soil Environment:**

The land is generally flat, however during site levelling borrow earth will be required. The excavated earth during civil foundations will be stored at earmarked places with proper slopes and later utilized for levelling and landscaping purpose within the plant premises. No earth will be brought from outside or disposed outside the premises. Excavation work will be carried out during dry season and avoided during rainfall events to prevent soil erosion and washout of excavated materials.

To avoid erosion of the top soil, the development is planned in the shortest possible time and land-clearing activity shall be kept to the absolute minimum by working at the specific sites one by one where construction is to take place so as to increase detention and infiltration.

### **D. Regarding anticipated noise pollution & its remedial measures:**

The noise generation will be considerable during such type of medium scale construction activities. Different phases of construction activities at project site are scheduled to take place for about 3 - 4 months. The impacts during construction phase are temporary and will be marginal. Necessary mitigative measures are required to be implemented during construction period. The noise impact will be relatively more on

construction workers during their duty hours, which will be mitigated through compliance to occupational exposure standards. Use of personal protective devices like ear muffs/plugs etc. will further minimize the noise impacts. Increase in the ambient noise levels will be temporary for a short duration. The plant will have DG set and rock crushing area as the only noise source. Acoustic enclosure and noise reduction measures are proposed to be adopted for all such areas to maintain the noise levels within limits.

**E. Regarding anticipated solid waste generation & its remedial measures:**

Also, some construction waste material will be generated for disposal during construction activity. These will mostly be reused for pavements and landscaping. The solid waste generated from the construction activities shall be effectively recycled within the project. The other solid wastes from the bag filters shall be reused in the process. Limited quantity of diesel, lubricating oil etc. will be required to be stored at site. These materials shall be stored as per stipulated safety standards/ guidelines.

**F. Social Aspects**

Employment will be generated, hence improvement of socio-economic aspects of the area. 2% -2.5% of the cost of the project will be utilized for the welfare of Village such as maintenance and proper water supply in schools of nearby Villages will be taken care by the industry.

M/s Geminy has proposed a fund of 8.0 lakhs per year for CSR activities as per following breakup:

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Description of Items</b>	<b>Cost (Rs. Lakhs per year)</b>
1	Development of drainage system in surrounding villages, making new hand pumps (deep tube wells) creating awareness about clean water, clean habits and health	1.5

2	Social Forestry program & tree plantation outside the plant premises.	2.0
3	Infrastructure Development in surrounding villages (Parks and Gardens, Community Hall, Village Roads, PanchayatBlawan, Anganwadi, Old age home)	0.50
4	Cleaning of ponds, maintaining village roads, providing street lighting etc.	1.0
5	Periodic Medical Assistance to people of surrounding villages (Free health check-up (routine) and distribution of free medicines (to poor people)	1.0
6	Contribution to village schools (Primary to Higher Secondary level) in each cluster of villages, providing school bags, uniform, tiffin, shoes and socks, books and study materials, teaching aids, furniture and blackboard, toilets and playground.	0.50
7	Rain water harvesting structure in and around plant area	1.5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8.0</b>

### 3) Budget for Implementation of Environmental Management Plan

The proposed project will require an investment of about Rs. 8.30 crores including expenditure of Rs 105.5 lakhs for pollution Control measures. Key expenditures on these pollution control measures are as given below:

S.No.	Particulars	Capital Cost	Recurring Cost per Month (Rs.)
1.	Water Pollution Control	20 Lakhs	50,000
2.	Air Pollution Control	75 Lakhs	50,000
3.	Hazardous Waste	2.5 Lakhs	50,000
Disposal Arrangements			
4.	Solid Waste Handling	1 Lakhs	10,000
5.	Expenditure proposed Pollution Monitoring	5 Lakhs	1,50,000



6.	Green Belt	2 Lakhs	75,000
Total		<b>105.5 Lakhs</b>	<b>3,85,000</b>

Thereafter, Environmental Engineer brought into the notice of public present at the venue of hearing that as per the provisions of EIA notification dated 14.09.2006, as amended from time to time, the persons present at the venue may seek any information or clarifications on the proposed project from the project promoter. It was also brought into the notice of the persons present there that the information or clarifications sought by them and reply given by the project proponent will be recorded in the proceedings of the hearing, which will be sent to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi for further consideration. Accordingly, he requested the persons present in the hearing to seek information or clarifications on the project one by one. He also informed that no information / clarifications / comments / views / suggestions / objections on the project have been received from the public in writing by the Board, so far.

Thereupon, the detail of the information/ clarifications sought by the persons present at the venue of hearing and the reply given by the project proponent is as under:

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name &amp; address of the person</b>	<b>Detail of query/ statement / information / clarification sought by the person present</b>	<b>Reply of the query / statement / information / clarification given by the project proponent</b>
1.	Subedar Major Shiv Kumar Kaushal, Village Harjiana, District Hoshiarpur	He welcomed the Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur and requested that a leather processing industry has been set up near a temple and area is disturbed due to odour and air pollution caused	Project proponent assured that they will cover it under CSR activities. At this point, Deputy Commissioner intervened and suggested the project proponent that amount

		<p>by the industry. He requested that the industry be closed immediately. He further stated that the area is thankful to the Geminy for bringing the project which will generate employment for the youth. He requested for support on drug de-addiction.</p>	<p>to be spent on CSR activities should be in consultation with prominent persons of the area and District Administration. The project proponent further stated that they will open sewing machine centre in the area and other activities as per requirement will be done in consultation with the prominent persons of the area.</p>
2.	<p>Sh. Joginder Pal Prabhakar, Village Mehdood, District Hoshiarpur</p>	<p>He expressed happiness for establishment of an industrial unit by the project proponent. With the establishment of the unit there will be development in the area, however, the unit shall take preventive measures for the control of pollution to save the public from the adverse impacts due to pollution. He also sought an assurance from the project proponent to provide medical assistance/facilities/organize camps and to provide assistance for sports activities. Preference should be given to local people for providing employment and area should be made tax free on Himachal pattern.</p>	<p>The project proponent stated that the entire treated water will be reused inside the premises and no wastewater will be discharged outside the premises. The project proponent assured to provide medical help as per the requirement after consulting the prominent local persons. He further stated that an amount of Rs.109.35 lacs has been reserved to be spent on the budget towards environment management. The Deputy Commissioner explained that the company will achieve zero liquid discharge which implies that</p>

			<p>entire wastewater to be generated from the process will be reused after treatment and no wastewater will be discharged outside the premises. Domestic wastewater to be generated from toilets/bathrooms has been proposed to be discharged into soakage pit after septic tank.</p> <p>To this observation, officers of Punjab Pollution Control Board explained that discharge of any kind of wastewater including domestic wastewater into soakage pit is not permitted by Punjab Pollution Control Board and project proponent shall propose some alternate appropriate disposal arrangements for domestic wastewater. The project proponent assured that domestic wastewater will be utilized onto land for plantation / irrigation after adequate treatment.</p>
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			<p>Thereafter, Deputy Commissioner asked the project proponent to explain the present public, the proposed air pollution control / mitigation measures.</p> <p>Environmental Consultant of promoter company stated that Rs.75 Lacs has been proposed for the air pollution control arrangements. A three stage scrubber will be provided to contain SPM and gases such as SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> etc. within the prescribed standards. Besides, a green belt will be developed all around the plant area.</p>
3.	Sh. Parveen Kumar Sandhu, Nambardar Jaijon, Ex. Member Panchayat Village Jaijon, District Hoshiarpur	He expressed happiness for establishment of an industrial unit in the area, but requested that at the same time it shall be ensured that the life of the public is not disturbed with the coming up of the project and wanted a commitment that there will be no pollution as already claimed in the presentation. He also urged that subsidy on the urea to be manufactured in the plant shall be given to the local farmers. Green belt to be provided shall not be limited to the plant area	<p>The project proponent welcomed the suggestions and assured that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green belt will not be limited to inside the premises and it will be extended outside the premises.</li> <li>• Rates of fertilizers are controlled and decided by the Govt. and not by the industry. However, they will</li> </ul>

		<p>rather it shall be provided inside as well as outside the plant premises to keep the area pollution free. It is a good thing that no water or air pollution will be caused due to the operation of the plant. Employment shall be given to the local residents as per qualification / eligibility and preference shall be given to the women in employment. Preferably atleast 30-40% of the total employment shall be given to the women. Some special unit for employment to the ladies shall also be set up.</p>	<p>see what maximum can be done for the people of the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Preference will be given to women, if equally eligible.</li></ul> <p>Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur endorsed the idea of preference to be given to women in the employment. He further explained that separate funds have already been reserved for green belts to be developed inside &amp; outside the premises as mentioned in the executive summary. He suggested that suitable varieties of plants such as fruit trees etc. which will generate revenue for the Panchayats should be planted after getting soil tested. The project proponent shall help for the welfare of the local residents.</p> <p>The project proponent assured all help and committed that they will try hard to come upto the expectations of the local public.</p>
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4.	Sh. Navjot Singh Bains, Social Worker	He stated that the project proponent has to spend Rs.8 Lac on CSR activities. He further stated that the local advisory committee should be formed for spending the above mentioned amount of CSR activities.	The project proponent informed that as already assured CSR activities will be undertaken as per local requirements and in consultation with the prominent persons of the area as well as District Administration.
5.	Sh. Piara Singh, Retd. District Education Officer, Social Worker, Mahalpur, District Hoshiarpur	1. As per the public notice, he has contacted the office of E.O. M.C. Mahalpur for accessing the executive summary, but the office has informed that no copy of executive summary is available in the office. He sought an assurance that water, air and soil quality of the area will be not affected due to operations of proposed fertilizer plant. All the big industrial plants operating in the area have obtained environmental clearance and have proposed environment management / pollution control arrangements, then why the entire area is badly affected with the operation of these plants such as Saila Paper Mill, Dasuya Distillery and nearby leather processing plant. If this can happen with the operation of already installed and operational plants, why the pollution problem will not be created with the operation of proposed fertilizer plant needs to be explained and something to be	1. At this point of time, the Regional Officer, Hoshiarpur of Punjab Pollution Control Board explained that Saila Paper Mill has adequate effluent treatment plant to treat its entire wastewater and the treated wastewater is being utilized onto land for plantation / irrigation and there is no odour problem in the area with the operations of said paper mill. As far as operations of Dasuya distillery are concerned, earlier the said unit used to manufacture the bio-fertilizer in open and now directions have been issued to the distillery to stop manufacturing of fertilizers in open.

		<p>done to save the public life.</p> <p>2. Sh. Piara Singh again contended that groundwater of the area has been badly affected and a video showing coloured groundwater and bad smell in the area had gone viral on whatsapp recently, but the same has been deleted him by now. Also, a news item about pollution caused by saila paper plant was published in the newspapers about 4-5 days back. Nearby leather processing industry is also causing heavy pollution in the area.</p>	<p>2. Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur asked the Regional Officer of Punjab Pollution Control Board to visit the site of leather processing unit personally and initiate action as per laid down procedure and discuss the matter with him after visiting the site immediately. He assured that implementation of prescribed norms will be strictly adhered to and constant vigil will be kept on the operations of industrial plants in the area.</p>
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Then the Environmental Engineer (Mega), Punjab Pollution Control Board requested the public, that if anyone else want to ask any more question about the proposed project, he may come forward, but no one came forward. Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner summed up the public consultation that public has complaints with the operations of existing industrial plants in the past. However, no laxity in the monitoring of industrial units by Punjab Pollution Control Board will be allowed. Rules of

Govt. will be got implemented, be it the proposed unit or any other plant in the District. The project proponent also assured that they will take local public in confidence and provide all possible help to meet with their requirements.

After that, people were asked to raise their hands who are in favour of this project and most of the people present raised hands in favor of this project. He then asked the people to raise their hands who are not in favour of the project and no one present in the public hearing raised his hands in disfavor of the project. The public hearing was attended by 44 persons.

The public hearing ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

**(Arun Kakar)**  
Environmental Engineer,  
Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur

**(Rajiv Sharma)**  
Environmental Engineer (Mega)  
Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
Patiala.

**(Vipul Ujjwal), IAS**  
Deputy Commissioner  
Hoshiarpur