



Debadityo Sinha <debadityo@gmail.com>

Representation to EAC: 1320 MW Proposed Thermal Power Plant in village Dadri Khurd, Mirzapur of M/s Welspun Energy U.P. Pvt. Ltd.

debadityo <debadityo@gmail.com>

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To: aslamba@rediffmail.com, crb26@hotmail.com, jlmehta06@sify.com, arnil2001@yahoo.co.in, nawalkishor.verma11@gmail.com, bansalka@yahoo.in, drgratnaval_cosmetologist@yahoo.in, gurbax49@gmail.com, sdattri@gmail.com, dutt_cbs@nsrsrc.gov.in, sarojmoef@yahoo.com

To,
The Chairperson and members,
Experts Appraisal Committee-Thermal Power Projects

Referring to our earlier representations sent to Experts Appraisal Committee, Thermal Power Projects of Ministry of Environment and Forests on the proposed thermal power plant of Welspun Energy U.P. Pvt. Ltd in village Dadri Khurd, Mirzapur we are again sending a **revised version of the site inspection report**.

We would like to inform the EAC that the factors considered in selecting the location of proposed thermal power plant by Welspun Energy UP Pvt Ltd at village Dadri Khurd is false and misleading. The proposed project will have immense impact on ecology, wildlife, water resource and human health. We have arrived at this finding based on our research as well as a site inspection visit conducted by our expert team comprising of faculty members of the Banaras Hindu University, journalists and our own members on 15th September, 2013.

In the course of the site inspection, we found that there are serious discrepancies between ground reality and the facts mentioned in the EIA report. For instance, a road is declared as common road in the EIA report is in reality a forest road owned by Forest Department, as is evident from the signboard put up there. Further, the entire project area was found to be good forest area, and a habitat of several protected animals like Sloth Bear, Swamp Deer, Muggar Crocodile, Bengal Monitor, Chinkara and Peafowl which are Scheduled I species according to Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. Several other important facts like importance of Upper Khajuri Dam, presence of Khajuri river, Wyndham fall and most importantly, the Banaras Hindu University Campus nearby do not find any mention the EIA report submitted to the MoEF. These, among others, are some of the critical issues which are ignored by the project proponent. Banaras Hindu University has already wrote to the Ministry of Environment and Forests regarding the anticipated impact on health of students and drinking water supply to its south campus which is very close to the proposed plant. We have highlighted most of them in our report.

We have prepared the Report outlining the findings and observations of our experts with supporting photographic evidence. We are attaching the same with this letter as a Report for your information and necessary action. We believe that the findings of this Report will persuade the EAC that the EIA Report prepared by the project proponent is misleading and false, and that the thermal power plant in the proposed site would have serious and irretrievable impacts on the wildlife, water resource, human health, environment and ecology of the area.

We strongly recommend that for the reasons outlined above, the project should not be granted Environmental Clearance and strict actions should be taken against the project proponent for such blatant misrepresentation.

Thanking you

Debadityo Sinha

Managing Trustee,

Vindhyan Ecology and Natural History Foundation (Vindhya Bachao)

36/30, Shivpuri Colony, Station Road, Mirzapur-231 001

+91-9540857338 | www.vindyabachao.org



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