11 April 2025

To,

- The Member Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
- 2. The Commissioner-Mirzapur Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
- 3. The District Magistrate-Mirzapur, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
- The Deputy Director General of Forests (C) Integrated Regional Office, Lucknow Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Govt. of India
- The Secretary (EF&CC) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Govt. of India

Subject: Complaint/ Objection Regarding 'Illegal' Public Hearing Conducted by Mirzapur Thermal Energy (U.P.) Pvt. Ltd. in Violation of EIA Notification, 2006 on today 11 April 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

It has come to my notice that a *Public Hearing* is being conducted today by Mirzapur Thermal Energy (U.P.) Pvt. Ltd. for the purpose of environmental clearance the EIA Notification, 2006, for the proposed 2x800 MW Coal based Ultra Super Critical Thermal Power Project (TPP) at Village Dadri Khurd, Tehsil, Mirzapur Sardar, District Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh.

At the outset, I wish to raise the following serious concerns regarding the legality and transparency of this process:

- 1. Lack of Proper Public Intimation: There has been no prior public notice or outreach about the scheduled public hearing as required under the law. As a result, affected individuals and stakeholders have been deprived of the opportunity to participate meaningfully or submit objections/suggestions.
- 2. Non-Availability of EIA Report in Public Domain: As of 11th April 2025, 10:00 AM, the Draft EIA Report and Executive Summary are not available on the websites of:
 - Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board,
 - Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), or
 - Mirzapur District Administration

In the absence of these critical documents in the public domain, the fundamental purpose of the public hearing — enabling informed public participation — is entirely defeated. There exists no scope for critically examining the project proposal or submitting objections based on its environmental impact.

I would also like to bring to your attention that I am the original petitioner in the matter Debadityo Sinha v. Union of India (Appeal No. 79/2014), wherein the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) had set aside the Environmental Clearance dated 21st August 2014, previously granted to Welspun Energy U.P. Pvt. Ltd. for a thermal power plant at the same site. The Hon'ble NGT had made serious observations on the deficiencies in the public hearing conducted for that project.

Furthermore, I wish to inform you that a separate matter regarding the violation of the EIA Notification, 2006 — specifically, undertaking construction without an environmental clearance — is already pending before the Hon'ble Tribunal. I also called the District Administration today morning including Commissioner-Mirzapur and District Magistrate- Mirzapur on their landline their secretaries informed me they were busy in meeting and should call on mobile. The mobile number of Commissioner weas received by their secretary who informed they are busy in meeting and cannot speak now. The mobile phone of District Magistrate was switched off.

Considering the above, I strongly urge that the public hearing being held today be suspended immediately, as it fails to meet the legal requirements under the EIA Notification, 2006. Proceeding with the public hearing in the current manner would not only violate the EIA Notification, 2006 but also undermine the judgment of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.

Annexure- Photo of the public hearing from today 11 April 2025

Yours sincerely,

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Debadityo Sinha,

Vindhya Bachao Secretariat, Vindhyan Ecology and Natural History Foundation 36/30, Shivpuri Colony, Station Road Mirzapur-231001

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Photo of the public hearing from today 11 April 2025