This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client. It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.
Executive Summary

Union Sugar factory became Union St-Aubin factory when St-Aubin Sugar factory closed down and the processing of the canes from the St-Aubin factory area was centralized on Union Sugar factory. Centralization of canes on Union St-Aubin continued thereafter upon the enactment in May 1997 of the Blue Print for the Centralization of Milling Operations in Mauritius (1997), when Britannia, Bel Ombre and St-Félix closed down. The centralization strategy essential to the survival (efficiency) of the Mauritius Sugar Industry now requires that Union St-Aubin also closes down, centralizing on the La Baraque Mill of Omnicane Milling Operations Limited as from June 2011.

The closure of Union St-Aubin is in conformity with the Multi-Annual Adaptation Assessment Strategy – Sugar Sector Action Plan 2006-2015 and will follow the requirements as detailed in Blue Print for the Centralization of Milling Operations in Mauritius (1997). The closure of Union St-Aubin has been approved by Government of Mauritius on the 25 March 2011.

It must be recalled that since 2009 Union St-Aubin (USA) only processed canes for the production of syrup that is then sent to La Baraque Sugar Mill via tanker lorries for processing into raw sugar and then into granulated refined sugar.

The direct technical implications of the closure of USA are as follows:

- Organizing the road transportation of the part of the cane hitherto directed to USA, namely 381 000 tons per crop, to the La Baraque OMNICANE Sugar Factory. The cane conveyance strategy has been the object of a thorough study which has identified the various routing and road status alternatives, to the satisfaction of the relevant Authorities, namely RDA and TMRSU.
- Processing of the extra cane at La Baraque will not impact on the process water availability. Recent works to ensure extra water supply from MTMD to La Baraque Factory, Power Station and Refinery have been designed in view of those extra requirements.
- Inasmuch as USA is concerned, no more process water demand on the water resources of the sugar mill, all excesses above the present and on-going CTDS requirements will be returned to the benefit of irrigation to Bel-Air SE, Union SE and St-Aubin Ltd.
- Processing of extra cane at La Baraque will require an additional electricity and steam during the crop season which will be met by CTSAV Power Station.
- Inasmuch as USA is concerned electrical power demand on the CEB grid will be limited to the requirements of the cane loading platform in operation during the crop season.

All the technical and social issues associated with the closure of USA have been systematically reviewed; all the negative impacts generated by the closure of USA have been identified and assessed. This detailed analysis, has lead to the following mitigating measures:

- Loss of employment will be compensated as per the recommendations of the Blue Print for the Centralization of sugar milling in Mauritius;
- Cane sampling will be carried out as usual on the loading zones;
• The bagasse within the storage yard will be sold to animal feed producers until stock is depleted.

In view of the foregoing and considering that the Centralization of USA on La Baraque, which is being carried out as per the provision of the Blue Print, must be effective for the 2011 crop season, it is desirable that the EIA Licence be issued accordingly.

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