ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
D.No.33-26-14, D/2, Near Sunrise Hospital, Pushpa Hotel Centre,
Chilamalavari street, Kasturbalpet, Vijayawada – 520 010

Ph :0866-2436200.
Grama : Kaluva Niverana
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Regd. Post With Ack Due

Order No.001/APPCB/UH-II/TF/NLR/2019-  
Date: 01.03.2019

DIRECTIONS

Sub: APPCB – TF – HO – M/s.Semb Corp Ltd, (Formerly M/s.NCC Power Projects Ltd), Painapuram (V), Muthukur (M), Nellore District – Public complaints received against the industry – Legal Hearing held on 30.01.2019 - Directions - Issued - Reg.

Ref:
4. Representation received from Sri Kakani Govardhan Reddy, Hon’ble MLA, Sarvepalli Constituency, Nellore District on behalf of the villagers of Mandapam, Varakavipudi, Pynapuram, Nelatur, Musunurivaripalem, Pidatapolur to submit representation against the thermal power plants operating in Muthukur & TP Gandur Mandal, Nellore District on 07.06.2017 and also received through the District Collector, Nellore on 19.06.2017.
5. A press clipping published in Deccan Chronicle daily news paper dated 08.06.2017 under caption of “PCB comes under fire for ignoring pollution” was received by EE, RO, Nellore from the District Collector, Nellore on 27.06.2017.
8. Minutes of the meeting held in the Chambers of Hon’ble Minster for Energy on 26.06.2018 at AP Secretariat, Amaravathi.

WHEREAS you are operating industry in the name & style of M/s. Semb Corp Ltd, (Formerly M/s.NCC Power Projects Ltd), Painapuram (V), Muthukur (M),SPSR Nellore District and is engaged in Electric Power Generation – 1320 MW (2x660 MW).

WHEREAS vide references 1st cited, The industry has obtained EC on 30.09.2010 for 1320 MW (2x660 MW) Power generation unit using imported coal as fuel and subsequently, obtained EC amendment on 18.05.2011 for using Blended coal & Imported coal.

WHEREAS vide references 2nd cited, The Board issued CFO to the industry to operate 2x660 MW (1320 MW) power generation using Blended Coal (70% domestic coal & 30% Imported coal) duly stipulating certain conditions to comply vide order dt.25.02.2016 for the period upto 28.02.2017 and subsequently renewed on 29.01.2017 which is valid upto 28.02.2022.

WHEREAS vide references 3rd cited, Local villagers are frequently complaining on pollution caused and crop loss in surrounding villages of M/s. NCC Power Plant. The Hon’ble Minister for Energy, Andhra Pradesh, Amaravathi has convened a meeting on
26.06.2018 and the District Collector Nellore and the Hon’ble Minister for Agriculture Andhra Pradesh, have briefed the Hon’ble Minister for Energy on the issues related to the thermal power plants operating in Nelatur and Pynapuram panchayats of Muthukur mandal of Nellore District.

WHEREAS vide references 4th cited, The Hon’ble Minister for Energy, Andhra Pradesh, instructed the District Collector Nellore to constitute a committee to study and submit report on the pollution effects & crop losses due to operation of NCC Power Plant. Accordingly, the Collector & District Magistrate, SPSR Nellore District has constituted a committee vide proceedings dt.23.11.2018 under the chairmanship of the Joint Collector, SPSR Nellore District comprising with officials from A.P. Pollution Control Board, Agriculture, APMIP, Animal Husbandry, APSPDCL, Agriculture Research Station and Mines & Geology to study the effects of pollution and to submit a report for taking further necessary action. The committee is yet to inspect this unit.

WHEREAS vide references 5th & 6th cited, the Board has issued certain directions to the industry on 21.07.2017 & 24.11.2017 in connection with compliant received against industry and non-compliance of Board directions.

WHEREAS vide references 7th cited, the RO, Nellore has received a e-mail from Collectorate, Nellore on 26.11.2018 appended with proceedings of the District Collector, Nellore District forwarded by minutes of the meeting held on 26.06.2018 in the Chambers of Hon’ble Minister for Energy, A.P.Secretariat, Amaravathi with regard to the issue related to the Thermal Power Plants operating in Nelatur & Panyampuram Panchayaths of Muthukuru Mandal, Nellore District.

WHEREAS vide references 8th cited, the Collector & District Magistrate, Nellore District has constituted Committee under the Chairmanship of the Joint Collector, Nellore district comprising with officials from the Departments of A.P.Pollution Control Board, Agriculture, APMIP, Animal Husbandary, APSPDCL, Agriculture Research Station & Mines & Geology to study the efforts of pollution from M/s.NCC Power Plant and to submit a report for taking further necessary action vide proceedings dt.23.11.2018.

WHEREAS vide references 9th cited, the Board officials of RO, Nellore inspected the industry on 19.12.2018 & 20.12.2018 and observed the following points:

a. No water sprinklers were observed near the ash pond to avoid air born dust and now water curtains is observed in the ash pond.

b. The industry is disposing the bottom ash through trucks to ash pond and made two heaps equal to the height of dyke.

c. The officials of RO, Nellore conducted Ambient Air Quality Monitoring at different locations in Muthukuru & T.P.Guduru Mandals, Nellore District and observed that the RSPM levels exceeding the Board’s standards.

d. The industry is having total 5 no of coal stock yards for which 60 Nos of MDSS (SPDS) provided at each coal stock yard. They are operating one after the other. The industry has installed flow meters at Coal handling system. The industry also installed flow meter for DFDS (Dry Fog Dust suppression system). Four web cameras installed in the surroundings of coal handling area and monitoring continuously through control room.

e. The industry has not provided wind barriers after the green belt buffer around coal stock yard to prevent fugitive dust emissions in all directions. However, they planted Conocarпускus trees all around coal yard and claiming it as wind barrier. The plants height at present is about 6 to 8 feet. No tarpaulin covering of coal heaps is observed to minimize the windborne dust.

f. The treated water is being used for land applications.

g. The industry has provided flow meters with totalizer at Sea Water Intake, Cooling tower Make-up, inlet & outlet of ETP, inlet & outlet of STP, marine outfall and CHP sections and maintaining records.

h. The industry has planted more number of Conocarпускus saplings as green belt as of now and the green belt area is about 250 acres out of 315 acres.

i. The industry has achieved 50% of ash utilization from November 2017 onwards to till date and 50% disposed in Ash pond.
j. The industry has not achieved prescribed emission standards for the parameters of the SO₂ and NOₓ standards within one month.

k. The industry has not carried out detailed study to identify all the major and minor sources contributing for fugitive dust emissions at plant premises and shall implement requisite dust containment/ suppression measures at sources. The details shall be furnished to the Board within one month along with corrective measures planned/ proposed to implement to specific time limit.

l. The industry has developed 215 acres green belt as against 315 acres. But, the growth of trees seems to be not good.

WHEREAS, legal hearing was conducted before the External Advisory Committee (Task Force) of A.P. Pollution Control Board in its Meeting on 30.01.2019. The representatives of the industry attended the legal hearing. The committee noted that 2 nos. of Writ Petitions vide W.P.No.14305/2011 and W.P.No.20114 of 2011 are filed before the Hon'ble High Court, wherein it was prayed not to permit large no.of Thermal Power Plants as cluster in this area and it was prayed to conduct CEPI in this area. These Writ Petitions had been still pending for disposal in the Hon'ble High Court. The committee also noted that the Board received complaints frequently from Local villagers on pollution caused and crop loss in surrounding villages of M/s. NCC Power Plant. The Hon'ble Minister for Energy, Andhra Pradesh, instructed the District Collector Nellore to constitute a committee to study and submit report on the pollution effects & crop losses due to operation of NCC Power Plant. Further, the committee noted the non-compliance of Board's directions and consent conditions. The EE, RO, Nellore has informed that the industry has not provided wind barriers after the greenbelt buffer around coal stockyard and not provided water sprinklers at ash pond area. It was informed that the industry has provided flow meters with totalizer facility, provided 60 no. of MDSS at coal yard and also installed flow meter for Dry Fog Dust Suppression system (DFDS). Further, it was informed that the industry has achieved 50% of ash utilization from November 2017 onwards to till date and 50% disposed in Ash pond and developed 215 acres green belt as against 315 acres. But, the growth of trees seems to be not good. The representative of the industry informed that they have installed water sprinklers system and operating continuously. They are in the process of developing water sprinklers grid which will ensure water curtain all the time in ash pond. It was informed that High Concentration Slurry Disposable (HCSD) system is used to dispose bottom ash (Wet ash) to ash pond in slurry form in combination with fly ash in ratio of 20:80 respectively through pipes. It was also informed that stock piles dust suppression system (SPDS) comprising of 300 sprinklers are installed and all are fully operational. The sprinklers system is designed to cover complete storage yard. Further, it was informed that they developed wind barriers with layer of thick Conocorpus Trees (Wind resistant plants) all around coal yard and 3 Web Cameras are installed at North-West side, South-West side and East for coal stock yards.

The Committee, after detailed discussions, recommended to issue certain directions. The Board hereby issued the following directions under Sec.33 (A) of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Act, 1988 and under Sec.31 (A) of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Amendment Act, 1987:

1. The industry shall operate the water sprinkling system around coal stacking yards and crusher for dust suppression and containment effectively. They shall provide web cameras to continuously monitor the operation of sprinklers within one month.

2. The industry shall provide wind barriers after the green belt buffer around coal stock yard to prevent fugitive dust emissions within one month.

3. The industry shall operate the STP for treatment of domestic waste water and treated water shall be utilized onland irrigation / dust suppression duly complying with prescribed discharge standards.

4. The industry shall adopt soil reclamation methods and to select specific type of tree species, which are endemic to local ecological conditions for the sustenance and growth. The progress in this regard shall be reported to RO, Nellore periodically.

5. The industry shall expedite ash utilization as per the guidelines stipulated in Fly Ash Notification.
6. The industry shall provide water sprinklers grid around the ash pond to control fugitive emissions as committed by the Management within six months.

7. The industry shall achieve prescribed emission standards for the parameters of the SO$_2$ and NO$_x$ standards within one month.

8. The industry shall develop thick green belt in the industry premises as per the conditions of CFE & CFO order within six months.


This order is issued under Sec.33 (A) of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Act, 1988 and under Sec.31 (A) of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Amendment Act, 1987.

You are hereby directed to note that, should you violate any one of the directions mentioned above, your unit will be closed under Sec.33(A) of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Amendment Act, 1988 and Sec.31(A) of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Amendment Act, 1987 without any further notice, in the interest of Public Health and Environment.

This Order comes into effect from today i.e., 01.03.2019.

Sd/-

CHAIRMAN

APPCB

To
M/s. Semb Corp Ltd,
Formerly M/s.NCC Power Projects Ltd,
Painapuram (V), Muthukur (M),
SPSR Nellore District.

Copy to:

1. The Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Zonal Office, Vijayawada for information and necessary action.

2. The Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Nellore for information and necessary action.

// T.C.F.B.O. //

JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

UH-II