Regd. Post With Ack Due

Order No. 10/APPCB/UH-II/TF/NLR/2017-

Date: 12.12.2017

DIRECTIONS


Ref:
3. Complaint received on 08.07.2016 from the near by villagers against Thermal Power Plants on Air Pollution Problems.

WHEREAS you are operating industry in the name & style of M/s. Simhapuri Energy Pvt. Ltd., (Phase-II) Thammenapatnam and Mommidi Villages, Chillakur (M), Nellore District and is engaged in Electric Power Generation (with imported coal of ash content < 11% and Sulphur content < 1.3%) – 600 MW (Phase – I : 2 x 150 MW + 2 x 150 MW Phase – II).

WHEREAS the Board issued combined CFO & HWA Order vide references 1st cited to the industry on 30.03.2015 duly stipulating necessary standards and conditions with a validity period upto 30.11.2017.

WHEREAS the Board issued certain directions vide reference 2nd cited to the industry on 04.04.2016 for non-compliance of Board directions.

WHEREAS vide reference 3rd cited, public complaints received from near by Villages of Chalivendra, Thamminapatnam and Venkannapalam Kotha Harijanawada, Muthukuru Mandal, Nellore District on 06.07.2016 against the Thermal Power Plants causing by air pollution.

WHEREAS the Board issued certain directions vide reference 4th cited to the industry on 09.09.2016 for non-compliance of Board directions and complaints received against the industry.


WHEREAS vide reference 6th cited, the Board has reviewed the status of pollution control measures taken by M/s. Meenakshi Energy Pvt. Ltd., (Phase – I) before External Advisory Committee (Task Force) meeting held on 24.03.2017 and committee recommended to issue certain directions. Accordingly, the Board has issued the specific directions to the industry on 16.05.2017.

WHEREAS vide reference 7th cited, the officials Zonal Office, Vijayawada has inspected the industry on 06.10.2017 to 09.10.2017 and observed the following violations:

1. It was observed that the industry was not in operation. As per the information submitted by the industry, the industry was not in regular operation since June, 2016 and stopped the operation of the industry since April, 2017.
2. During the inspection the industry was intimated not to start the operation of the industry without intimating to the A.P.Pollution Control Board.
3. The industry yet to comply with most of the directions / conditions stipulated in the CFO order and directions Dt.04.04.2016 & 16.05.2017.

WHEREAS vide reference 7th cited, legal hearing was conducted before the External Advisory Committee (Task Force) Meeting of A.P. Pollution Control Board on 16.11.2017. The representatives of the industry attended the legal hearing and complainants did not attend the legal hearing. The committee noted that the Board has received several complaints from the surrounding villagers of Thermal Power Plants on pollution problems viz. air pollution due to stack emissions, fugitive dust emissions, and waste water discharges from ash pond and ground water depletion. The Committee also noted that the Thermal Power Plant are not achieving the Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) and Oxides of Nitrogen (NOₓ) standards and not meeting the Ambient Air Quality Standards stipulated by the Board. The EE, RO, Nellore has informed that school teachers working in the school nearby villages, have also complained that soot is being deposited on school building particularly during March and August months and sought action against the power plants. He has also informed that all thermal power plants have failed to achieve 100% utilization of ash as per fly ash notification 25.05.2015 and not operating water sprinklers system continuously at coal handling areas. It was further informed that the Thermal Power Plants are not operating the ETP & STP for treatment of DM Plant regeneration, Boiler Blow Down, Domestic Plant wastewater and discharging the untreated wastewater into the sea directly. The representative of M/s. Simhapuri Energy Pvt Ltd., & M/s. Meenakshi Energy Ltd., Chilakuru (M), SPSR Nellore District have informed that the plants was stopped the operation since October, 2017 due to poor market condition. All thermal Power Plants have informed that they provided water sprinklers at coal handling storage areas and continuously operating water sprinklers. It was informed that they provided web cameras at coal yards and coal crusher and provided wind barriers around coal yard, so as to avoid fugitive dust emissions on the surrounding villages. All thermal Power Plants have also informed that they implemented CSR active at surrounding villages in consultation with District Administration. They will develop the green belt in the coming monsoon season. The Committee has instructed all Thermal Power Plants to achieve the Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) and Oxides of Nitrogen (NOₓ) standards within one month and shall meet the Ambient Air Quality Standards stipulated by the Board.

The Committee, after detailed discussions, recommended to issue certain directions. The Board hereby issue 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. At present the plant is not under operation. As and when starts its operations, 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 and effective area 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 provide flow meters with totalizer at all sections within one month and shall maintain records and to submit consolidate records to ZO, Vijayawada and RO, Nellore every month.

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 implement the CSR activities at surrounding villages in consultation with District Administration.

7. The industry shall achieve prescribed emission standards for the parameters of the Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) and Oxides of Nitrogen (NOₓ) standards within one month.
8. The industry shall carry 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 in specific time limit.

9. The industry shall set up a dedicated Environmental Wing fully equipped with expertise to ensure Environmental Compliance in all aspects.

10. The industry shall not discharge the cooling water blow downs into Khandaleru creek instead of sending into sea through marine outfall.

11. The industry shall install dedicated pipe line system for transportation of ash from boiler section to ash pond area to control fugitive emissions.

12. The industry shall develop thick green belt in the industry premises as mentioned in the CFE & CFO order within six months.

The implementation progress of the above directions shall be furnished periodically to ZO, Vijayawada and RO, Nellore for every three months.

You are hereby directed to note that, should you violate any one of the direction mentioned above, your unit will be closed under Sec.33(A) of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Amendment Act, 1986 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., 12.12.2017.

Sd/-
MEMBER SECRETARY

To,
M/s. Simhapuri Energy Pvt. Ltd., (Phase - II),
Thammanapatnam and Mommidi Villages,
Chilakur (M),
Nellore District - 524412.

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. //</p>