Order No. 06/APPCB/UH-II/TF/NLR/2017-

Date: 10.05.2017

DIRECTIONS

Sub: APPCB – TF - HO - M/s. Thermal Power tech Corporation (India) Ltd., located at Painampuram & Nelaturu Villages, Muthukur Mandal, Nellore District – Public complaints received against the industry – Legal Hearing held on 24.03.2017 – Directions - Issued - Reg.

2. Complaint received on 08.07.2016 from the near by villagers against Thermal Power Plants on Air Pollution Problems.
7. External Advisory Committee (Task Force) meeting held on 24.03.2017.

WHEREAS you are operating industry in the name & style of M/s. Thermal Powertech Corporation (India) Ltd., located at Painampuram & Nelaturu Villages, Muthukur Mandal, Nellore District and is engaged in Electric Power Generation 1 x 660 MW (2nd unit of Stage-1).

WHEREAS vide references 1st cited, the Board issued certain directions to the industry on 04.04.2016 for non-compliance of Board directions and complaints received against the industry.

WHEREAS vide reference 2nd cited, public complaints received from near by Villages of Chaliyendra, Thamminapatham and Venkannaapalem Kotha Harjanaavada, Muthukur Mandal, Nellore District on 08.07.2016 against the Thermal Power Plants causing by air pollution.

WHEREAS vide reference 3rd cited, the Board issued following directions to the industry on 09.09.2016 for non-compliance of Board directions and complaints received against the industry.

1. All Thermal Power Plants shall achieve 100% fly ash utilization as per Fly Ash Notification dated 25.05.2015.
2. All Thermal Power Plants shall operate water sprinklers at coal stock yards adequately to maintain wet condition of coal, so as to control fugitive dust emission to the surrounding area.
3. All Thermal Power Plants shall develop the thick green belt along the periphery of the factory premises and on all four sides of coal stock yards as committed by the management.
4. All Thermal Power Plants shall ensure the continuous compliance of CFO & HW Authorization conditions issued by the Board.
5. All Thermal Power Plants shall contact local villagers / School management and install display boards to know the status of ambient air quality in the area.
6. All Thermal Power Plants shall comply with the directions issued by the Board vide order dt.04.04.2016

WHEREAS vide reference 4th cited, the Board issued combined CFO & HWA Order to the industry on 21.11.2016 duly stipulating necessary standards and conditions with a validity period upto 30.11.2021.

WHEREAS vide reference 6th cited, the EE, RO, Nellore has inspected the industry on 07.02.2017 and furnished report as follows:

1. All thermal power plants have failed to achieve 100% fly ash utilization as per Fly Ash Notification dated 25.05.2015.

2. All thermal power plants are not operating water sprinkling systems continuously at coal handling areas i.e. at coal stock yards to adequately maintain coal in wet condition in order that fugitive dust emissions are mitigated.

3. Most of the thermal power plants particularly M/s. Thermal Powertech Corporation (India) Ltd., M/s. Sembcorp Ltd (Formerly M/s. NCC Power Projects Ltd) and M/s. Sri Damodaram Sanjeevavah Thermal Power Station of M/s. Andhra Pradesh Power Development Co. Ltd., (A.P.GENCO) have not complied with respect green belt development. The industry managements claim that though they could plant adequate no. of saplings as part of developing green belt, these saplings are not surviving because of high salinity levels in the soils. These industries should be directed to adopt soil reclamation methods and to select specific type of plant species which are suitable for local ecological conditions.


5. No thermal power plant has set up web cameras at all coal stock yards so as to monitor the operation of water sprinkling systems to maintain coal in wet condition for effective mitigation of fugitive dust on to the surroundings.

6. No industry has complied on the specific condition to install display Boards for display of all parameters pertaining to Ambient Air Quality for Public information.

7. No industry has installed wind barriers towards the nearby village habitations in order to mitigate pollution impact due to fugitive dust emissions.

8. During inspection of the Board officials surroundings villagers have conducted public gherao demonstrating their anger on pollution problems and demanded that the Board should take stringent action against all thermal power plants for causing pollution problems to the surrounding village public thereby endangering public health & Environment.

9. During inspection, School teachers working in the school in the nearby village, have also complained against air pollution such soot being deposited on school buildings particularly from March onwards up to the month of August and sought action against the power plants.

10. During inspection, the Regional Office, Nellore has conducted stack & Ambient Air Quality monitoring in the above said coal based thermal power plants and monitoring reports revealed that the SPM and RSPM levels have exceeded norms stipulated by the Board/CPCB.

11. All the above mentioned Thermal power plants have not set-up dedicated Environmental wing which should be provided with expertise to plan, promote, devise, execute, assess Environmental pollution control measures and advise the concerned industry management in order that Environmental compliance should be achieved.

WHEREAS vide reference 7th cited, legal hearing was conducted before the External Advisory Committee (Task Force) Meeting of A.P. Pollution Control Board on 24.03.2017. The representatives of the industries attended the legal hearing. The committee noted that the Board received a complaint made by Sri K.R.Reddy, Nellore on pollution problems due to thermal power plants in Nellore district. The Committee also note that all thermal power plants have failed to achieve 100% fly ash utilization as per Fly Ash Notification 25.05.2015, not operating water sprinkling system continuously at coal handling areas, not installed web cameras at all coal stock yards, not installed display Boards for display of all parameters pertaining to AAQ and non-compliance of CFO order conditions and the directions of the Board. The EE, RO, Nellore has informed that several complaints received from the surrounding villagers on pollution problems viz. Air pollution due to stack emissions, fugitive dust emissions, waster water discharges from ash pond, Ground water depletion and on thermal radiation impact on the nearby human habitation which is being felt severely during summer season. It was also informed that during inspection, School teachers working in the school in the nearby villages, have also complained that soot is being deposited on school buildings particularly during March & August and sought action against the power plants. The representatives of the all thermal power plants informed that they are sending fly ash to brick manufacturing industries. It was informed that water sprinklers are operated continuously at coal yard to control fugitive emissions. It was also informed that they will develop green belt coming monsoon season; they have selected specific type of tree species (Conocarpus lancifolius, Terminalia arjuna, Madhca India, ficus bengalensis, Cocos nucifera, Grevillea robusta etc.). All thermal power plants have informed that they will install web cameras by end of April 2017. The Committee recommended to submit plan of action to achieve 100% fly ash utilization, continuously operate water sprinklers at coal yards to control fugitive emissions and develop green belt in industry premises.
The Committee after detailed discussions, recommended to issue the following directions:

1. All Thermal Power plants shall submit plan of action to achieve 100% fly ash utilization in compliance with the provisions of Fly Ash Notification, dated 25.05.2015.

2. All Thermal Power plants shall take measures for continuous operations at coal handling areas to maintain coal to be in wet condition in order to suppress fugitive dust emissions.

3. All Thermal Power plants 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.

4. All Thermal Power plants shall set up web cameras at all coal stock yards to monitor operation of water sprinkling systems for effective fugitive dust mitigation on to the surroundings within one month.

5. All Thermal Power plants shall set up a dedicated Environmental Wing fully equipped with expertise to ensure Environmental Compliance in all aspects.


7. The Thermal Power Plants, which are getting coal through conveyor belt systems viz. Sri Damodaram Sanjeevalah Thermal Power Plant of A.P.Genco, Thermal Powertech Corporation India Ltd., Semb Corp Ltd., shall take necessary measures to plug leakages in the coal conveyor belt systems at the common transfer point to control fugitive dust emissions.

8. The industry shall ensure continuous compliance of the conditions issued in the CFO order

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., 10.05.2017.

Sd/-
MEMBER SECRETARY

To
M/s. Thermal Powertech Corporation (India) Ltd.,
Painampuram & Nelaturu Villages,
Muthukur Mandal,
Nellore District 524344

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