The RO, Nellore reported that M/s. Panasonic Carbon Co Limited, Plot No.48, Tada (M), SPSR Nellore District has submitted a request for usage of pet coke as raw material and requested to issue certificate that the industry is using superfine coke only as raw material not as fuel. The RO submitted the following details:

1. M/s. Panasonic Carbon India Co. Ltd., has submitted a letter to the Board stating that raw materials are procured from domestic and international sources. The industry is using superfine needle coke only as raw material, which is importing from Japan, which is not available in India and requested the Board to that extent they need a certification from APPCB stating that needle coke is using as raw material and not using as fuel for onward submission to Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT).

2. The RO submitted that the industry is involved in the manufacturing of carbon electrodes by using Coal coke, Petroleum Coke, super fine needle coke (processed petroleum coke), Artificial graphite, Natural graphite as basic raw materials for the production of Midget Electrodes for Dry Cell Batteries – 540 TPM located at Plot No. 48, Tada (M), SPSR Nellore District and obtained CFO from the Board (CFO order No. N-27/PCB/ZO-VJA/CFO/W&A/2016-164 dt.19.04.2016 and subsequent to auto renewal order dt.31.01.2019) with validity up to 28.02.2024.

3. The request of the industry along with RO remarks was earlier furnished to the Zonal Office, Vijayawada stating that the request of the industry may be examined subject to the submission of the commitment confirming that the industry shall not use superfine needle coke as fuel duly stipulating conditions applicable.

4. The Zonal Office, Vijayawada has informed that the import and usage of superfine needle coke as a raw material comes under the purview of Board Office and directed the RO to forward the report to Board Office for taking further necessary action.

5. In view of the above, the request of M/s. Panasonic Carbon India Limited may be examined in the light an amendment of import policy of pet coke issued by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Department of Commerce, New Delhi vide Notification No. 38/2015-2020, Dt.28.09.2018.

Head Office Remarks:

1. The Board issued CFO to the industry to manufacture Midget Electrodes for Dry Cell Batteries – 546 TPM with validity upto 28.02.2024. The industry submitted that they are using super fine needle coke of about 240 Tons / year.

2. It was reported that the industry is involved in the manufacturing of carbon electrodes by using Coal coke, Petroleum coke, super fine needle coke (processed petroleum coke), artificial graphite, natural graphite as basic raw materials for the production of Midget Electrodes for Dry Cell Batteries.

3. As per the enclosed Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Department of Commerce, New Delhi Notification No. 38/2015-2020, Dt.28.09.2018, Import of Pet coke is “free” for cement, lime kiln, calcium carbide, gasification industries and graphite electrode industry for use as feed stock or in the manufacturing process only on Actual User basis. Regulation and monitoring of such imports will be as per the guidelines of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change issued vide O.M. No. Q-18011/54/2018-CPA dated September 10, 2018.

4. As per the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Department of Commerce, New Delhi Notification No. 42/2015-2020, Dt.23.10.2018 (downloaded from internet), the following extract is submitted:
3. **The amended Policy Condition No.6:** Import of pet coke for fuel purpose is prohibited. However, import of pet coke is “free” for cement, lime kiln, calcium carbide, gasification industries and graphite electrode industries for use as feed stock or in the manufacturing process only on Actual User basis. *Further, Aluminum Industry can import Calcined Pet Coke not exceeding 0.5 MT per annum and Calcined Pet Coke manufacturing units can import raw Pet Coke not exceeding 1.4 MT per annum.* Regulation and monitoring of such imports will be as per the guidelines of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change issued vide O.M. No.Q-18011/54/2018-CPA dated September 10, 2018.

4. **Effect of this Notification:** The portion *in italics* is added and accordingly, apart from the five industries namely, cement, lime kiln, calcium carbide, gasification industries and graphite electrode industry, import of 0.5 MT per annum of pet coke for anode making by the Aluminum Industry and 1.4 MT per annum for producing calcined pet coke by the Calcined Pet Coke Manufacturing units is allowed with Actual User Condition.

5. The industry is involved in the manufacturing of Carbon Electrodes whereas the GOI Notification mentions Graphite Electrode Industry. This may please be examined.

The issue is placed before the Committee for review and recommendations.

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