

POLICY DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

CHAPTER TWELVE

The members of the West Bengal Pollution Board meet at a regular interval to discuss various issues related to the different activities of the Board and the adoption of important policy decisions. Two Board meetings were held during the financial year 2006-2007.

During both the Board meetings, the confirmation of the previous meeting and the follow-up actions on the resolutions taken during the past meetings were regular affairs. Moreover, a review on the progress on the important activities of the Board related to consent management, cess, waste management, legal matters, public grievance, environmental campaign, training and ongoing projects were an integral component of the agenda for discussion during the meetings. The other major policy decisions adopted by the Board during the aforesaid Board meetings are illustrated below.

Sl. No.	Board Meeting No.	Time Period	Date	Venue
1.	134	2006-2007	25.07.2006	Paribesh Bhawan, Bidhan Nagar
2.	135	2006-2007	01.02.2007	Paribesh Bhawan, Bidhan Nagar

Key issues discussed at the 134th Board Meeting held on 25.07.2006

- The members noted the information with regard to the joining of Shri B. P. Barat, IAS as Member Secretary of the Board.
- The members were informed that the WBPCB Employees' Service Regulation 2005 had been sent to the State Department of Environment for necessary modifications.
- The Board approved the proposal on additional financial assistance for the Environmental Development Project in and around water bodies in the premises at 49, Narkeldanga North Road, Kolkata -11, KMC Ward No. 29, P. S. Narkeldanga.
- The members approved the framing of the training policy of the Board.
- The Board approved the proposal of setting up of the Board's Sub-Regional Office at Purulia *vis a vis* the reallocation of the working area of Durgapur Regional office and Asansol Regional Office.
- The members approved the new siting policy of the Board.
- The Board approved the proposal for the new categorisation of industries.
- The Board granted permission for construction of new slaughter house in municipal areas under the Kolkata Municipal Area (KMA).
- The Board decided that no processing fees would be imposed for change of name or ownership of a company.
- It was informed that the WBPCB had been facing a lot of problems due to public complaints in regard to some small units, for instance those units manufacturing steel

almirah/grill etc. Most of them are non-polluting in nature and therefore the Board decided to exempt these units from the purview of the environmental act, subject to gravity of the situation.

Key issues discussed at the 135th Board Meeting held on 01.02.2007

- The Board accepted and approved the Budget Estimate for the year 2007-2008.
- The members granted post facto approval of the proposal for further simplification of consent administration system.
- The members of the Board approved the proposal for consent administration for the building and construction Projects. The Board approved the proposal that the Municipal Corporations may include one nominee from the WBPCB in the building committees for sanctioning building projects (with total built up area less than 20,000 square metres) for proper environmental management.
- The members suggested that review of the proposed 'categorisation of industries' is required. It was informed that a four-member Committee of the Board currently supervises the categorisation of industries.
- The Board approved the proposal of modification of the address of Paribesh Bhawan from Salt Lake City to Bidhan Nagar.
- The members approved the reinstatement of two suspended employees of the Board.
- The members noted that there is disparity between the 'West Bengal Service Rules' and the 'West Bengal Pollution Control Board Employees' Service Regulation 2005'. The Board approved the proposal of adopting the regulations laid down in the 'West Bengal Service Rules' for the employees of the Board *mutatis mutandis*.

- The Board considered the proposal for treating the written examination (for filling up of 15 posts for Groups B and C held on 05.03.2006) as valid and decided to conclude the process.
- The Board approved the proposal for setting up of Board's Regional Office at Malda and reallocation of the working area of Siliguri and Barrackpore Regional Offices.
- The members were informed that the Environment Excellence Award 2006 will be held on February 6, 2007 at Hyatt Regency, Kolkata.
- The Chairman informed that stress must be given on R&D projects, and publication of more research articles in scientific journals must be encouraged.