



WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

(Department of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal)

Paribesh Bhawan

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MEMO NO.: 883 -358-WPB-SEE-K.O.-GEN/2006

DATE: 20-06-2008

DIRECTION

WHEREAS, M/S. **MEJIA THERMAL POWER STATION OF D.V.C.** (hereinafter referred as MTPS) operates its thermal power plant at Durlavpur, Dist. – Bankura.

WHEREAS, MTPS was earlier called for a hearing on 23-03-2007 in response to a public complaint was lodged by the villagers of Latiabani to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, which was ultimately forwarded to the **WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD** (hereinafter referred as the Board). The villagers alleged that the fly ash generated from the thermal power station is seriously affecting the atmosphere of the village. They also mentioned in the complaint letter that the fugitive dust from the coal crusher of MTPS is also affecting the village.

WHEREAS, on the basis of the hearing, the following directions were issued by the Board through an order dated 20-04-2007.

1. M/S. MTPS will have to submit a time bound action plan within fifteen days for proper management of ash in the fly ash pond, arrangement of dry fly ash collection in all the three remaining units as per CREP condition. The action plan should also include arrangement for 100% re-cycling of ash pond over flow and compliance of emission standard by improving the efficiency of E.S.P. in all the four units.
2. M/S. MTPS will have also to arrange for proper dust suppression measure in coal crusher unit, especially dry defogging for minimizing the secondary emission of the dust from coal crusher unit.
3. All these action are required to be completed within six months.
4. M/S. MTPS will have to immediately obtain authorization from the Waste Management Cell of the Board
5. M/S. MTPS will have to submit a Bank Guarantee [proforma enclosed] of Rs.15.00 Lakhs (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs) valid for twelve (12) months within fifteen (15) days from the date hereof in favour of the **WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD** as an assurance for compliance of the above directions

WHEREAS, a further inspection in February, 2008 of M/S. MTPS revealed that the unit has not installed dry defogging system in the coal crusher unit and the problems of the Latiabani villagers remains the same as there has been no improvement in ash pond management system. The unit has also failed to comply with the TSS standard for powerhouse discharge. As per CREP condition the unit is supposed to provide dry fly ash collection system in all the four units. As per CREP condition the unit is required to arrange for the 100% recycling of ash pond overflow, which they failed to comply. Besides, noncompliance of the direction issued earlier as above, the unit started operating commercially the Unit No.5 (210 MW) from February, 2008 without obtaining “Consent-to-Operate” from the Board.

WHEREAS, a further technical hearing of M/S. MTPS was conducted at the Head Office of the Board on 02-05-2007

WHEREAS, the Deputy Chief Engineer of M/S. MTPS appearing in the hearing agreed that there has been no improvement in ash pond management and the problems of the Latiabani villagers remains the same. The Deputy Chief Engineer tried to explain that due to some litigation they could not take action for proper management of fly ash pond as was directed by the Board. The unit also submitted that they could not install the dry defogging system in the coal crusher section as there will be further expansion in that area. However, they are sprinkling water regularly through water tankers. Regarding initiating trial run of the 5th unit without obtaining "Consent-to-Operate" from the Board M/S. MTPS could not submit any satisfactory explanation.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the violation of the direction issued by the Board as revealed through Board's inspection carried out in the month of February, 2008 as also noncompliance of conditions stipulated under CREP for thermal power plant **M/S. MEJIA THERMAL POWER STATION** is hereby directed as follows

1. That, M/s. MTPS is allowed a further time of six months to comply with the directions issued by the Board on 20-04-2007
2. That, M/s. MTPS will have to submit a Pollution Cost of f Rs.10.00 Lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakhs) by a Demand Draft, to be drawn on service branch, Kolkata/Banker's Cheque within fifteen days from the date of issuance of this direction in favour of the **WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD** for noncompliance of the Board's direction as referred above, inspite of giving enough opportunity.
3. That, M/S. MTPS will have to submit a fresh Bank Guarantee for Rs.15.00 Lakhs (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs) valid for twelve (12) months within fifteen [15] days from the date of issuance of this direction in favour of **THE WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

This direction is issued in exercise of the powers conferred under Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 & Rules made thereunder and Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules and its subsequent amendments.

In case of the non-compliance of the above directions by the industry within the stipulated time, the Board may have to issue necessary regulatory order without any further reference.

This has the approval of the Competent Authority.

Order

Sd/-

(Dr. D. Chakraborty)

**Chief Scientist & Head-Technical Cell
West Bengal Pollution Control Board**