



WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

(Department of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal)

Paribesh Bhawan

Bldg. No. 10A, LA Block, Sector-III, Biddhannagar

Kolkata-700 098

Tel: 2335-9088, 2335-7428, 2335-8211, 2335-8073, 2335-6731

2335-0261, 2335-8212, 2335-8213, 2335-8861, 2335-5975

Fax: (0091) (033) 2335-6730 / 2335-2813

MEMO NO.: 1430 -366-WPB-SEE-K.O.-GEN/2006

DATE: 11-06-2009

DIRECTION FOR CLOSURE

WHEREAS, THE DURGAPUR PROJECTS LTD. (DPL) operating its coal based thermal power plant and Coke-Oven By-product Plant (COBP) at Durgapur, District – Burdwan, Pin – 713 201.

WHEREAS, M/S. DPL has a record of perpetual failure to comply with the environmental norms both for its liquid effluent generated from its COBP plant as also particulate emission from the coal-fired boilers in the thermal power division.

WHEREAS, liquid effluent generated from COBP plant is critically polluting containing toxic substances. Such effluent contains high concentration of cyanide, ammonia, phenol, thio-cyanates, tarry matter as also high COD & BOD.

WHEREAS, M/S. DPL was called for a hearing on 18-05-2007 at the Head Office of the **WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD** (hereinafter referred as the Board) for discharging toxic, obnoxious effluent generated from coke oven and by-product plant containing high concentration of phenol, cyanide, ammonia, BOD & COD much beyond the permissible limit to Tamlah Nullah, which ultimately discharges into river Damodar. The unit was also failing to comply with the particulate emission standard for boilers of its thermal power plant by a large margin.

WHEREAS, on the basis of the submission by the Officials of M/s. DPL, Durgapur attending the hearing, the unit was directed to comply with the following:

1. Complete commissioning of BOD plant within one year
2. Taking shutdown of the older boilers for revamping and modernizing the emission control system after the 7th unit starts functioning. During the shutdown period of older boilers, DPL authorities will undertake flue gas conditioning as also revamping of the ESPs.

WHEREAS, a Bank Guarantee of Rs.10.00 Lakhs was imposed for ensuring compliance of the above directions within stipulated time.

WHEREAS, despite the above directions issued by the Board and the action plan submitted by M/s. DPL in regard to above, the unit failed to comply with the above directions and continued discharging untreated toxic effluent from COBP to river Damodar via Tamlah Nullah. There was no improvement in the emission level from the coal-fired boilers of the thermal power plant. The DPL Authority did not go for shutdown of the older boilers for revamping/modernizing of the ESPs.

WHEREAS, in view of the above noncompliance, M/S. DPL was called for further hearing in the chamber of the Member Secretary on 12-10-2007.

WHEREAS, Officials of M/s. DPL attending the hearing could not submit any satisfactory explanation for the above noncompliance.

WHEREAS, on the basis of hearing conducted in the chamber of the Member Secretary, following directions were issued on 31-10-2007 on the basis of the hearing.

- I. M/s. DPL will ensure that the toxic waste containing cyanide, phenol, ammonia etc. is treated chemically for minimizing its pollution load before the same is being diluted with effluent from other sections pending installation of BOD plant for adequate treatment of liquid waste.
- II. M/s. DPL should immediately take shut down of its old boilers in a phased manner for necessary revamping and overhauling of its emission control systems with an objective of improving the efficiency of the emission control system. Arrangements for proper ammonia dosing should also be made immediately for flue gas conditioning in all the boilers for improvement of the particulate removal efficiency of the emission abatement systems.
- III. M/S. DPL should immediately stop overflow of ash from ash pond into the Tamla Nullah through compliance of TSS discharge standard.

WHEREAS, the unit continue to violate the environmental standards for liquid effluent discharged from COBP and ash pond over flow. Recently observed violations include:

- A. Failure to commission the BOD plant within June, 2008 as assured by the DPL Authority during hearing on 18-05-2007 for treatment of COBP effluent. The unit still continues to discharge effluent containing high concentration of phenol, ammonia, cyanide etc.
The unit is also discharging very high concentration of fly ash slurry to Tamla Nullah. The effluent analysis reports corroborate the above facts.
- B. M/S. DPL is continuing to emit copious black smoke from the power plant boilers.
- C. The DPL Authorities failed to ensure compliance of emission standard even for the newly commissioned Unit No.7 as is evident from the picture of emission. The unit is also operating without obtaining "Consent-to-Operate" from the Board.
- D. The unit has failed to commission dry fly ash disposal system as required under CREP conditions.

WHEREAS, the Board has been receiving public complaints from the villagers of Piyala alleging severe air and noise pollution affecting the environment of the village.

WHEREAS, the unit was called for a hearing on 24-04-2009. In the hearing continued noncompliance of liquid effluent discharge norms from COBP and ash pond overflow as also emission from thermal power plant boilers were recorded.

WHEREAS, the officials attending the hearing failed to explain the reasons for continued noncompliance, inspite of being given sufficient opportunity for compliance.

WHEREAS, the complainants appearing in the hearing also complained about serious air and noise pollution from the activity of the unit.

NOW, THEREFORE, considering the facts and circumstances recorded above which clearly indicate that M/S. DPL is continuously violating the environmental norms in both the cases of liquid effluent discharge as also gaseous emission, M/S. DURGAPUR PROJECTS LIMITED is hereby directed as under:

PART –A : FOR COKE OVEN & BY-PRODUCT PLANT

THAT, M/S. DPL will take a shutdown of its Coke Oven & By-Product Plant to stop discharging toxic and obnoxious effluent from this plant. This order will be effective from 21-06-2009. This ten days time is allowed for exhaustion of stock of coal used as raw material for manufacture of coke. The suspension of closure of the COBP will only be considered after M/s. DPL make necessary arrangement for treating this obnoxious liquid waste for compliance of liquid effluent discharge standard.

PART – B : FOR THERMAL POWER PLANT

1. THAT, M/S. DPL should always comply with the effluent discharge standard for the ash pond overflow.
2. THAT, M/s. DPL is also directed to take shut down of the older boilers for necessary revamping and overhauling of the emission control system as proposed by DPL in the hearing. The shutdown can be taken in a phased manner.
3. THAT, M/S. DPL will operate the Unit No.7 after obtaining necessary “Consent-to-Operate” from the Board.
4. THAT, M/S. DPL will install necessary dust suppression measures for preventing air pollution from coal crusher unit affecting the Piyala Village within three months from the date of issuance of this direction.
5. THAT, M/S. DPL will ensure commissioning dry fly ash collection system as required under CREP conditions within six months from the date of issuance of this direction.

M/S. DPL should submit a Bank Guarantee (proforma enclosed) of Rs.20.00 Lakhs (Rupees Twenty Lakhs) only valid for twelve [12] months in favour of the WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD as an assurance for compliance of the above directions within the stipulated time frame.

This direction is issued in exercise of the powers conferred under Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 after being approved by the Competent Authority.

By Order,

Sd/-

(Dr. D. Chakraborty)

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