



WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

(Department of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal)

Paribesh Bhawan

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MEMO NO.: 2993 - 7-WPBD-CONT(545)/98

DATE: 12-10-2009

ORDER FOR CLOSURE WITH DISCONNECTION OF ELECTRICITY

WHEREAS, M/S. SONALI CERAMICS PVT. LTD., (hereinafter referred as the industry) is a grossly air polluting unit continuously emitting copious black smoke from the coal-fired ceramic kilns at Birudiha, P. O. – Panagarh, Dist. – Burdwan.

WHEREAS, the unit is operating the activity without “Consent-to-Operate” from the Board. The “Consent-to-Operate” could not be processed as the industry refuses the entry of the inspecting officials from the Board for carrying out necessary environmental monitoring.

WHEREAS, the Board Officials regularly take pictures of the emission from the industry, which have been depicted below:



EVIDENCES OF BLACK SMOKE EMISSION FROM THE INDUSTRY

The pictures clearly reveal that the industry symbolizes as one of the heavily air polluting industries.

WHEREAS, the Board issued closure order against the industry in the past for emitting black smoke and not complying with the Board’s direction but failed to achieve any tangible result because of the recalcitrant attitude of the management of the industry.

WHEREAS, considering the serious air pollution from the industry, a technical hearing was conducted on 11-09-2009 at the Head Office of the Board providing the opportunity to the industry to explain the reasons for abnormally high emission from the unit. The representative of the industry appearing in the hearing claimed that the emission level is under control and the observation of the Board is not a correct reflection of the latest status of compliance and invited the Board Officials to revisit the industry to assess the current status of compliance by the unit.

WHEREAS, the Board officials visited the industry on 08-10-2009 to verify the claim of the industry made during the course of the hearing. Photographic evidences of black smoke emission were taken during the visit, which clearly suggest that the unit is still continuing emitting black smoke and polluting the neighbouring areas. The photographs are depicted below:



NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the facts and circumstances stated above and also the refusal of the industry to minimize the emission of thick black smoke from the industry and the recalcitrant attitude of the unit refusing to take adequate steps to control the pollution from ceramic kilns, **M/S. SONALI CERAMICS PVT. LTD.** is hereby closed. The electricity connection of the industry is also directed to be disconnected immediately.

The Director, WBSEDCL, Bidyut Bhavan, Salt Lake City, Kolkata is requested to disconnect the electricity connection of the industry in question forthwith.

The Officer-In-Charge, Kanksa Police Station under W. B. Police is directed to execute the Closure Order against the aforementioned unit and submit the compliance report to the State Board within seven days from the receipt of this Memo.

This direction has been issued to the Officer-In-Charge, Kanksa Police Station and the Director, WBSEDCL in conformity with the order of the Hon'ble High Court, Calcutta dated 21-08-1998 and 28-04-1999 respectively.

The Environmental Engineer, Durgapur Regional Office of the State Board is requested to take necessary steps for proper execution of the closure order and also visit the units involving the local police station and Nodal Police Officer of the concerned district to oversee the proper execution of the closure order and also ensure the disconnection of electricity of the unit.

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

By Order,

Sd/-

(Dr. D. Chakraborty)

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