



## WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

(Department of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal)

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**MEMO NO.: 3727/173/WPB/SEE(Ko)-GEN/2004**

**DATED : 24/12/2009**

### **CLOSURE ORDER**

**WHEREAS, M/s. Rishabh Sponge Pvt. Ltd.,** (herein after referred as the industry) operating its sponge iron unit of capacity 3x100 TPD rotary kilns at Barjora, Dist.-Bankura, was called for hearing at the Head Office of the Board on 21/12/2009 for gross non-compliance of environmental norms by the industry.

**WHEREAS,** there is strong public resentment against the operation of the sponge iron and ferro alloy units in Barjora area of the Bankura alleging high level of air pollution from the operation of such units. The public resentment has been recorded while conducting public hearing for setting up of new sponge iron and ferro alloy units in the area in recent times.

**WHEREAS,** on earlier occasions regulatory directions had to be issued to ensure that the industry complies with the environmental norms.

**WHEREAS,** recent monitoring results of the industry clearly reveal repetitive non-compliance of the particulate emission standard by the industry. Some of the results are depicted below:

| <b>Date of sampling</b> | <b>Stack attached to</b> | <b>Concentration of PM (mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>)</b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 23/07/2009              | Rotary kiln 1 & 2        | <b>528.09</b>                                  |
| 11/02/2009              | Rotary kiln 1 & 2        | <b>331.25</b>                                  |
| 22/07/2008              | Product house            | <b>178.56</b>                                  |

**WHEREAS,** during a recent inspection of the industry by the Board officials on 01/12/2009 heavy emission was observed through the ABC cap and the stack attached to the rotary kilns. High level of fugitive emission was noted in the cooler discharge and product house separation area of the industry. Large amount of raw materials including iron fines was found stored in open space which is contrary to the direction issued by the Board (six point directives to minimize fugitive emission).

**WHEREAS,** the Directors of the unit appearing in the hearing agreed to the observations made by the Board officials and submitted that inspite of all efforts taken by the industry, they are unable to control the emission due to regular disruption in power supply and supply of unstable power.

**WHEREAS**, the industry voluntarily agreed to take a shutdown of all the three rotary kilns to modify / upgrade the environment management system for necessary compliance through a stamp paper undertaking submitted to the Board.

**NOW THEREFORE**, in consideration of the report of inspection, the public resentment against the sponge iron and ferro alloy units in Barjora area and submission of the Directors made during the hearing, **M/s. Rishabh Sponge Pvt. Ltd.**, is hereby officially closed. The industry will only resume its manufacturing activity after taking necessary permission from the Board.

The industry will be granted a time of one month from the date of issuance of this order for completion of the modification / upgradation of the environmental management system and the same will be assessed by the Board officials.

The electricity connection of the industry will be disconnected after a month if the industry fails to incorporate physically verifiable changes in the environmental management system to the satisfaction of the Board officials.

If the industry operates their plant in violation of the Board's order, without getting a suspension of closure order after necessary improvement of the emission control system, the Board will take appropriate regulatory action.

This order has the approval of the competent authority of the Board and is issued in exercise of the powers conferred under the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and rules made thereunder.

The Officer in-charge, Barjora Police Station under West Bengal 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 Office in-charge, Barjora Police Station and in conformity with the order of the Hon'ble High Court, Calcutta dated 21/08/1998.

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 unit involving the local Police Station and the Nodal Police Officer of the concerned district to oversee the proper execution of the Closure Order and ensure the disconnection of the electricity of the unit.

By Order,

Sd/-

(Dr. D. Chakraborty)

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