WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
( Department of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal )  
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Memo No. 545-7/WPBD-Cont(424)/98 (Part-V)  
Date: 05/07/2016

**DIRECTION**

WHEREAS, M/s. Durgapur Thermal Power Station (D.V.C) [hereinafter referred to as the industry] located at P.O. & P.S.- Durgapur, Dist.- Burdwan, Pin – 713 207 is a coal based thermal power station of capacity 1X140 MW (Unit-3) and 1X210 MW (Unit-4). Boilers of unit nos. 3 & 4 are provided with separate ESP and connected to separate stacks of height 68m & 92m respectively from G.L. The industry has the facility of flue gas conditioning by ammonia dosing in unit 4, but presently it has been stopped for corrosion problem. Opacity meters are provided for both units.

AND WHEREAS, the West Bengal Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred to as the Board) received mass public complaint from the residents of Angadpur, Arjunpur area against very high dust pollution caused by the industry particularly from ash ponds. Hon’ble Mayor, Durgapur Municipal Corporation also complained against the industry for severe dust emission from the ash ponds of the industry.

AND WHEREAS, following the mass public complaint, the industry was inspected by Board officials on 15/04/2016, 17/04/2016 & 01/05/2016. During inspection on 15/04/2016 & 17/04/2016, Unit 4 was in operation with load of 145 MW. During inspection high emission was noticed through the ESP stack. Unit 3 was not in operation during inspection. Fly ash and bottom ash generated due to combustion of coal are handled separately. Fly ash is collected in storage silos and is disposed to the outside and bottom ash is being sent to the ash pond in slurry form. Dry ash disposal facility for unit 4 was found to be operational during inspection. The ash ponds are located close to the Angadpur High School and Ward no. 37 of Durgapur Municipal area. Ash dykes and approach road for ash ponds were found full of dry ash. Pond ash is periodically evacuated from ash pond and conveyed for filling up of abandoned OCP coal mine. However during inspection it was informed by the local people that no pond ash has been evacuated since last one year and representatives of the industry has agreed to this citing reason of non-availability of abandoned coal mines.

AND WHEREAS, the villages Angadpur & Arjunpur are located at about 500m away from the Ash Ponds of the industry. Especially Ash Pond no. 4 & 5 are located close to the villages. Due to non-evacuation of ash, both Ash ponds are filled up and surfaces are dried up due to very high ambient temperature. During wind blow from south western side, the dry ash is getting carried away and deposited on nearby buildings, vegetation and water bodies. Deposition of fly ash was observed at Angadpur, High School, on roof tops of residential buildings of village Angadpur, and village roads also. Deposition of fly ash was observed at various areas surrounding the ash ponds. Water sprinkling arrangements were found to be inadequate to suppress air borne dust particles.

AND WHEREAS, during inspection on 01/05/2016, it was alleged that the industry has not yet started evacuation process of ash from ash ponds. Though surface of ash pond 5 was found to be wetted, other ash ponds especially surface of ash pond no. 4 was found to be very dry. No major sprinkling arrangement was made for these pond surfaces. One movable water tanker was observed near ash pond. Ash slurry water was observed in Ash pond no.2. Growth of vegetation was noticed on Ash pond no. 3 & 6. Ash ponds as well as ash dykes were not maintained properly. Inadequate
plantation was observed along the periphery of the ash pond area. No buffer area with proper plantation has been developed by the industry.

AND WHEREAS, stack samplings were conducted during inspections on 20/05/2015, 10/09/2015 & 15/03/2016 and the industry could not meet the permissible limit for particulate matter on every occasion. Results are tabulated below:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sampling date</th>
<th>Sampling point</th>
<th>Concentration of PM (mg/Nm$^3$)</th>
<th>Permissible limit (mg/Nm$^3$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15/03/2016</td>
<td>Boiler no. 4</td>
<td>280.98</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/09/2015</td>
<td>Boiler no. 3 (Pass A)</td>
<td>207.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boiler no. 4</td>
<td>1079.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/05/2015</td>
<td>Boiler no. 3 (Pass A)</td>
<td>798.52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boiler no. 3 (Pass B)</td>
<td>935.62</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26/03/2015</td>
<td>Boiler no. 3 (Pass A)</td>
<td>207.09</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AND WHEREAS, effluent collected from the Power House outlet of the industry failed to meet the liquid effluent discharge standard on 20/05/2015 & 09/06/2015 in respect of TSS (348.0 mg/l, 188.00 mg/l against the permissible limit of 100 mg/l). The effluent analysis reports during July 2015-February 2016 show compliance.

AND WHEREAS, earlier a direction was issued to the industry on 10/06/2014. Rs. 5.00 lakh was forfeited from the BG of Rs. 10.00 lakh, a fresh B.G. of Rs. 5.00 lakh was imposed and the industry was directed to extend the validity of the remaining Rs. 5.00 lakh of existing BG for further one year.

AND WHEREAS, the Consent to Operate of the industry is valid upto 31/12/2018.

AND WHEREAS, the industry was called for a hearing at the Head office of the Board on 24/05/2016 for the above mentioned non-compliance of environmental norms.

AND WHEREAS, the representatives of the industry appearing in the hearing submitted that ash from ash pond no. 4 & 5 will be evacuated within 3-4 months and thereafter they will take necessary steps for growing vegetation on the said ash ponds to arrest ash/dust emission. They also submitted that overhauling of ESP for unit 4 is to be scheduled in February 2017 to improve the performance of ESP.

AND WHEREAS, the complainant appeared in the hearing alleged that they are facing severe problem for spreading of ash/dust from ash pond no. 4 & 5 especially during summer season due to non-evacuation of ash since long period. They also alleged that the industry should immediately close the ash pond no. 4 & 5 after evacuation and develop plantation on the said ash ponds.

NOW, THEREFORE, considering the above, M/s. Durgapur Thermal Power Station (D.V.C) located at P.O. & P.S.- Durgapur, Dist.- Burdwan, Pin – 713 207 is hereby directed as follows:

1. That, the industry shall always operate its emission control system efficiently for compliance of emission standard in respect to particulate matter and will also comply with the effluent discharge standards on a regular basis.

2. That, the emission from boiler stack will have to be brought under compliance level through thorough overhauling work of ESP.
3. **That**, the industry shall operate the facility of flue gas conditioning by ammonia dozing to increase the efficiency of ESP.

4. **That**, the industry shall not send further ash in Ash pond no. 4 & 5 and shall cover up the same by adequate greeneries so as to eliminate the possibilities of dust pollution. A time bound action plan in this regard shall be submitted within 15 days from the date of issue of the order.

5. **That**, the industry shall arrange sufficient sprinklers for continuous watering in addition spraying of water by movable tanker to control re-suspension of dusts within the industry premises.

6. **That**, the industry shall develop buffer plantation area along the inside periphery of the industry premises.

7. **That**, the industry shall comply with the provision of the Hazardous Waste Rules and shall obtain Hazardous Waste Authorisation from the State Board.

8. **That**, the industry shall execute a Bank Guarantee (proforma enclosed) of **Rs. 10,00,000/-** (Rupees Ten lakh) only 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** as an assurance to comply with the above direction.

The Environmental Engineer, Durgapur Regional Office of the Board will keep strict vigil over the industry and if the industry is again found to be violating the environmental norms or Board’s directions, further strict regulatory action will be taken against the industry.

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

**By Order,**

**Sd/-**

Chief Engineer
Operation & Execution Cell
West Bengal Pollution Control Board