WHEREAS, M/S. THE DURGAPUR PROJECTS LIMITED (hereinafter referred as DPL) operating its coal fired thermal power plant as also Coke Oven and By-product (COBP) recovery plant at Durgapur, Dist. - Burdwan was earlier called for a hearing on 18/05/2007 for gross non-compliance of particulate emission standard in its power plant boilers. The unit was also recorded 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 into Tamla Nullah which ultimately reaches river Damodar.

WHEREAS, subsequent to the hearing, M/s. DPL was issued the following directions for compliance under a Bank Guarantee of Rs.10.00 lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakhs).

1. The DPL should submit an action plan within one month for compliance of the liquid and gaseous emission standard in line with their submission in the hearing.
2. Once the older boilers are put on a shut down mode for total revamping, DPL will have to take permission for restarting the boilers from the State Pollution Control Board.
3. That, M/s. DPL will complete commissioning of BOD plant within one year.

WHEREAS, even after issuance of the directions dated 22/06/2007, as referred above, the unit failed to submit any concrete action plan for compliance of the same.

WHEREAS, the industry continued to emit copious black smoke from its boiler chimneys polluting the adjoining atmosphere and no short term action was taken by the unit for minimizing the discharge of toxic pollutants like cyanide, phenol, ammonia etc. pending commissioning of the BOD plant for adequate treatment of liquid waste generated from COBP.

WHEREAS, in due consideration of the facts and circumstances stated above M/s. DPL was further called for a further hearing in the chamber of Member Secretary of the Board on 12/10/2007. In the hearing the DPL officials attending the hearing were duly apprised of the monitoring results showing environmental non-compliance of the unit monitored subsequently after issuance of the earlier direction dated 22-06-2007. The DPL authorities could not provide any satisfactory explanation for not taking any short term actions for minimizing air pollution form its thermal power plants or even for partial treatment of the COBP effluent for reduction of its toxic load.

NOW THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred under Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Environment
(Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules made thereunder, M/s. THE DURGAPUR PROJECTS LIMITED is hereby directed as follows:

1. 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 other effluent before the final discharge pending installation of BOD plant for adequate treatment of liquid waste.

2. M/s. DPL should immediately take shut down of its power plant boilers 1, 2 & 5 and subsequently also boiler No. 6 in a phased manner for necessary revamping and overhauling of its emission control systems for improving its efficiency. 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.

3. M/S. DPL should immediately stop overflow of ash from ash pond into the Tamla Nullah through compliance of TSS discharge standard.

4. M/s DPL should submit a bank guarantee (proforma enclosed) for Rs. 15.0 lakhs (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs only) valid for twelve [12] months within fifteen [15] days from the date here of in favour of WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD as an assurance for compliance of the above directions.

M/S THE DURGAPUR PROJECTS LIMITED is also penalised by imposition of pollution cost of Rs.10.00 lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakhs only) through forfeiture of the Bank Guarantee already deposited with the Board for gross environmental non-compliance.

Failure of the above directions may attract further regulatory action by the Board.

This has the approval of the competent authority.

Order

Sd/-

(Dr. D. Chakraborty)
Chief Scientist & Head-Technical Cell
West Bengal Pollution Control Board