MEMO NO.: 3268 - PCB-HGY-SPL.R-3304-09(I) DATE: 03-11-2009

ORDER FOR CLOSURE WITH DISCONNECTION OF ELECTRICITY

WHEREAS, M/S. SONALI CHEMICALS (hereinafter referred as the industry) operates its alum manufacturing unit at NH-2, Delhi Road, Purushottambati, P. O. Sugandha, P. S. – Polaba, Dist. – Hooghly.

WHEREAS, the industry was inspected by the Board Officials on 25-10-2008 and 02-02-2009 when the following observations were made:

1. The unit uses bauxite and sulphuric acid as raw material.
2. Two reaction vessels are placed in open area without any emission control system and without stack.
3. The unit does not have any effluent treatment plant. Spillage of acid in the form of liquid effluent was observed throughout the entire premises of the factory as the acidic effluent generated by the unit is kept in unlined shallow trenches. The mud arising from the reaction was found dumped throughout the whole western premises outside the factory on NH-2.
4. Housekeeping was observed very poor.
5. The unit is operating without obtaining “Consent-to-Operate”.

WHEREAS, inspite of repeated directions to the unit through verbal instructions during the inspections on 25-10-2008 and 02-02-2009 for installation of pollution abatement system and submission of application for obtaining “Consent-to-Operate” till date the unit failed to install the pollution control system or even did apply for “Consent-to-Operate”.

WHEREAS, the Board conducted a technical hearing of the industry at its Head Office on 26-06-2009 where the Partner of the industry failed to explain the reasons of noncompliance inspite of issuance of directions from the Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, considering the noncompliance as recorded above, M/S. SONALI CHEMICALS is hereby closed by the Board. The electricity connection of the industry is also ordered 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.

Suspension of closure will only be considered after compliance of the following conditions:

A. Decontamination of contaminated land to be done immediately.
B. Alumina dust to be used instead of Bauxite as raw material.
C. Properly designed emission control system to be installed for the reaction vessels.
D. Obtaining “Consent- to-Operate” from the Board after fulfillment of the above conditions.
This direction is issued in exercise of the powers conferred under Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution), Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules made thereunder after being approved by the Competent Authority.

The closure order will take immediate effect and Officer-In-Charge, Polba 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 Officer-In-Charge, Polba Police Station and the Director, M/S. WBSEDCL, in conformity with the order of the Hon’ble High Court, Calcutta dated 21-08-1998 and 28-04-1999 respectively.

Environmental Engineer, Hooghly 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 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.

By Order,

Sd/-

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