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WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

(Department of Environment, Government of West Bengal)
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Memo No.

-IM-11/2009 (Part-X)

Date: /04/2024

DIRECTION

WHEREAS, M/s. Sagardighi Thermal Power Project (hereinafter referred to as the industry) located at **Vill.-Monigram, P.O.-Monigram, Dist.- Murshidabad, Pin-742237** is a Power Plant having power generation capacity 2X300 MW and 2X500 MW.

AND WHEREAS, the industry was inspected by the **West Bengal Pollution Control Board** (hereinafter referred to as the State Board) official on 12.02.2024 in connection with a public grievance registered on Grievance Redressal Monitoring Cell, Hon'ble Chief Minister Office on 25.01.2024 by Smt. Jashmin Sultana, Gobardanga Gram Panchayet, Sagardighi Block, P.S.- Sagardighi, Dist.-Murshidabad, Pin-742237 against the unit for creating water pollution due to discharge of crude oil through drainage into the Tarabhadgirathi River and several residents of Monigram village, Sagardighi are facing problems due to water pollution in the said river. The following observations were made by the inspecting official during inspection:-

- During inspection the unit was found operational with its power generating units and ETP.
- The unit has 2X1025 MT/hr. and 2X1590 MT/hr. coal fired boilers which are provided with ESP as APCD and connected to separate stack of height 275m each from G.L.
- The unit has 06 nos. silos for storage of ash.
- The used empty oil drums were found to be kept in an open confined area.
- The unit has submitted the Annual Return (Form 4) for the year 2022-23.
- The inspecting official contacted Smt. Jashmin Sultana, complainant, but she was not available as she lives 6-7 km away from the alleged site. Then the inspecting official contacted over phone Mr. Silon whose mobile no. is given in the complaint letter, but he also could not be present at the spot. He requested the inspecting official to visit the nearest villages i.e. Monigram, Bagpara and Chandpara for collecting information regarding the problems they are facing due to operation of the unit. So, the inspecting official met some neighbouring residents of those areas and gathered the following information:-

Sl. No.	Name and address	Complaint	Remarks
01	Mr. Sahel Khan, Mr. Saiful, Sk, Mr. Ghanashyam Kalidaha, Mr. Uttam Rajmollo , Mr. Aktar Alam Sk, Mr. Uttam Saha of Monigram village	Informed that they are not facing air, water or sound pollution from the alleged unit.	No comment
02	Mr. Kajal Khan, Mr. Akherul Khan, Mr. Ayub Khan of Monigram village	Informed that they are now not facing the pollution problem but sometimes they face fly ash problem of the unit	No comment
03	Mr. Islam Sk, Mr. Rabiul Sk of Chandpara village	Informed that one month ago a layer of oil was seen floating in the canal water leading from the alleged unit to Bhagirathi	During inspection and routine visit no such streak of oil floating in the running water was

		River and also stated that fly ash problem is acute during Bengali months Chaitra-Baishak.	found in the canal. During inspection in last year on 24/05/2023 the inspecting official did not find such fly ash problem.
04.	Mr. Nurul Islam, Mr. Liyakat Sk, Mr. Kabiruddin Ahmed of Bagpara village	Informed that they are facing fly ash problem from ash pond and fly ash carrying vehicles round the year. Also informed in summer season this problem becomes worse.	Extra care to be taken by the unit during fly ash transportation so that the fly ash does not fall on the roads during such transportation.

AND WHEREAS, the Consent to Operate of the industry is valid upto 28/02/2029.

AND WHEREAS, the unit was called for a hearing on 12.03.2024 at the Head office of the Board. Smt. Jashmin Sultana, complainant was requested to remain present during the hearing, but none on behalf of the complainant was present in the hearing. The representatives on behalf of the unit appeared in the hearing and submitted an action taken report wherein it is mentioned the following:-

- They informed that 1X660 MW power generating unit is under commissioning stage along with ash silo.
- They have installed online continuous effluent monitoring system and no untreated effluent is being discharged by them outside the plant premises.
- They stated that river Bhagirathi is 06 km away from the plant premises. However, they are continuously close monitoring and no trace of crude oil is observed in the canal water leading to the Bhagirathi River.
- The empty oil drums are preserved within the plant premises with proper precaution. The empty oil drums are sold periodically to the authorized vendor of the State Board and Annual Return (Form-4) is also duly submitted to the State Board. However, at present the said drums are appropriately covered with tarpaulin.
- They are checking the quality of the canal water on regular basis and last water sampling was done by them through the Board's recognized laboratory and analysis report was found within the permissible limit.
- Necessary steps have been taken for installation of Sluice Gate across Metro drains within the plant premises to arrest any accidental oil leakage.
- Necessary steps have also been taken to prevent fugitive emission during fly ash handling and transportation. Water sprinkling is being carried out at the loading and unloading point including vehicles movement road to prevent air pollution.
- During transportation all dumpers has been properly covered to avoid any spillage of ash on the roads. The loaded bulker carrying dry fly ash from the plant is usually released for transportation after properly washing.
- Plantation of about 17500 saplings around the Ash Pond area has been carried out in this financial year.

NOW THEREFORE, considering the above, **M/s. Sagardighi Thermal Power Project** located at Vill.-Monigram, P.O.-Monigram, Dist.- Murshidabad, Pin-742237 is hereby directed as follows:-

1. **That**, the industry shall always operate pollution control system efficiently to comply with the environmental norms.
2. **That**, the industry shall take necessary steps for enhancement of dry fly ash utilization so as to achieve 100% utilization.

3. **That**, the industry shall strengthen the recirculation system of ash water.
4. **That**, the industry shall always use water sprinklers during transportation of fly ash on roads as well as at the loading and unloading point of fly ash.
5. **That**, the industry shall take proper measures to stop the fly ash spillage during transportation by vehicles.
6. **That**, the industry shall submit compliance report in respect of air and water sampling for the last financial year and also submit ash utilization report for the last one year at the earliest.

The Sr. Environmental Engineer & In-charge, Malda Regional Office of the State Board is requested to keep a strict vigil on the industry.

This direction is issued in exercise of the powers conferred under the provision of Section 33A of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Section 31A of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules made thereunder.

By Order,

Sd/-


**Officer-on-Special Duty
(Operation & Execution)
West Bengal Pollution Control Board**

Memo No. 4072(10)-IM-11/2009 (Part-X)

Date: 24/04/2024

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. M/s. Sagardighi Thermal Power Project, Vill.-Monigram, P.O.-Monigram, Dist.- Murshidabad, Pin-742237
2. The Additional Secretary, Dept. of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal, Prani Sampad Bhavan, 5th Floor, LB-2, Sector-III, Bidhannagar, Kolkata-700106
3. The Chief Engineer, Planning & EIM Cell, WBPCB
4. The Senior Law Officer, WBPCB
5. The Sr. Scientist & In-charge, ANA&T & PG Cell, WBPCB
6. The Sr. Environmental Engineer & In-charge, Malda Regional Office, WBPCB
7. T.A. to the Member Secretary, WBPCB
8. P.A. to the Chairman, WBPCB
9. Smt. Jashmin Sultana, Gobardanga Gram Panchayet, Sagardighi Block, P.S.- Sagardighi, Dist.- Murshidabad, Pin-742237
- ✓ 10. Technical Cell, WBPCB for updating the website
11. Environment Officer- Communication, WBPCB – for circulation through float file
12. Guard file of O & E Cell


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