



B-29016/04/06/IPC-I/

SPEED POST

March 12, 2018

To

18289
M/s Punjab Alkalies & Chemicals Ltd.
Nangal-Una Road,
Naya Nangal, Dist. Ropar
Punjab-140 126

Sub: Directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 -reg.

WHEREAS, the Chlor alkali industries are identified as one of the 17 categories of highly polluting industries which have been discharging environmental pollutants directly or indirectly into the ambient air and water, having potential threat to cause adverse effect on the water and air quality; and

WHEREAS, the M/s Punjab Alkalies & Chemicals Ltd., Punjab (herein after referred as the Unit) which comes under Chlor Alkali category, has installed the online continuous effluent monitoring system for the parameters pH, TSS & Flow and online continuous emission monitoring system (OCEMS) for the parameter HCl & Cl₂; and

WHEREAS, a closure direction under section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 was issued to the Unit dated March 17, 2017 was revoked on July 27, 2017 with a condition that the Unit shall obtain valid CTO from PPCB and ensure compliance of norms; and

WHEREAS, it was observed by the IT division of the CPCB that the 41 SMS alert were generated for the parameter pH of OCEMS during the month of 15 June-15 July; and

WHEREAS, the Unit was inspected by a team of officials from CPCB Regional Directorate, Lucknow on October 06, 2017 to assess the adequacy of the existing pollution control measures and OCEMS, observations of team are as follows:

1. The Unit does not have a valid CCA from PSPCB under water & Air Act (expired on 30.12.2016) and applied for renewal and also does not have a valid authorization under Hazardous & other waste Rules, 2016 from PPCB.
2. The Unit was found operational but ETP was not operational and only pH adjust of effluent was done and after neutralization it was mixed with fresh water and used for plant irrigation in their premises.
3. The secondary treatment was found non functional since 11.07.2017 and also observed in damage condition.
4. The effluent samples from preliminary collection tank of ETP after pH adjustment was highly acidic nature (pH: 3.08 < 6.5-9.0) with high TDS (3641 mg/l > 2000 mg/l) & chloride (2718 mg/l > 1000 mg/l). The high value of Sodium Absorption ratio (SAR: 32.3 > 26) indicates that the effluent was not suitable for plant irrigation.
5. During visit, it was observed that six old brine disposal pits are not closed and capped.
6. During visit, Ground water samples were collected from two piezometer wells near old brine disposal pits and the analysis result are exceeding the permissible limits of BIS w.r.t. TDS- (5584 mg/l > 2000 mg/l), Cl-(3027 mg/l > 1000 mg/l) in Piezometer Well-1 and TDS- (2832 mg/l > 2000 mg/l), Cl-(1238 mg/l > 1000 mg/l) in Piezometer Well-II.

7. The online pH meter installed at pH adjustment tank was found non-functional.
8. The OCEMS for parameter pH, BOD, COD, TSS was placed in HPDE tank with diluted water. The OCEMS system was showing constant values for parameters pH (8.13), TSS (28.27 mg/l), COD (148.37 mg/l) & BOD (3.98 mg/l).
9. The Unit (**M/s Punjab Alkalies & Chemicals Ltd., Punjab**) has not provided leachate collection system in the active brine mud disposal pit as well as in old brine mud disposal pits.
10. The Unit has kept a large amount of brine mud sludge in an open area near old brine mud disposal pits.

WHEREAS, a closure direction was issued to the Unit vide letter dated November 07, 2017 under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 in view of above non-compliance: and

WHEREAS, the Unit vide letter dated December 21, 2017 informed that they have complied with the CPCB direction dated 07.11.2017 except covering the old brine disposal pits, leachate collection system in the active brine mud disposal pit and will be completed in six months without submitting the undertaking; and

WHEREAS, an email dated 04.01.2018 sent to the unit to request submit the valid CTO, an undertaking on stamp paper, self certificate and adequacy report of ETP at the earliest to process of revocation; and

WHEREAS, the Unit vide letter dated January 23, 2018 submitted the self certificate along with adequacy report of ETP from reputed Government organisation NITTT&R established by Ministry of Human Resource Development; and

WHEREAS, CPCB constituted a Three-member committee vide office order dated 03.10.2017 having representative(s) from CPCB and MoEF&CC for examination and recommendation for revocation of the closure direction issued by CPCB; and

WHEREAS, the Three-member committee in its meeting held on 21.02.2018 examined the compliance report submitted by the Unit and recommended that the Unit may be asked to submit complete compliance including leachate collect system in the active and old pit and same was communicated to the unit vide email dated 22.02.2018 ;and

WHEREAS, the Unit vide letter dated February 26, 2018 informed that they have complied with all the CPCB direction dated November 07, 2017 including the adequacy of leachate collection system and requested to revoke the closure direction; and


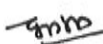
WHEREAS, the Three-member committee in its meeting held on 28.02.2018 examined the compliance report submitted by the Unit and recommended that the Unit may be allowed to resume operation with the following conditions:

1. The unit shall be inspected by PPCB for compliance verification.
2. The Unit shall submit Log book details showing performance of each stage of Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) for a month and one month daily analysis report of treated effluent from MoEF recognised laboratory from the resumption of its operation to the CPCB; and

WHEREAS, the Unit was found non-complying w.r.t the closure direction issued by the CPCB dated March 17, 2017 & November 07, 2017 for a period of 90 days & 65 days respectively, which is non-compliance of the closure direction issued by CPCB under section 5 of the E(P) Act, 1986 for which action as per law shall be initiated separately for recovery of environmental damage; and

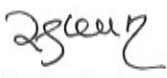
WHEREAS, the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, vide Notifications No. S. O. 157 (E) of 27.02.1996 and S. O. 730 (E) dated 10.07.2002, has delegated the powers vested under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) to the Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, to issue directions to any industry or any local body or any other authority for violations of the standards and rules notified under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 and amendment thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of powers vested to Chairman CPCB under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and in view of compliance with relevant direction, submitted by the Unit, the direction issued under the Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to the Unit [M/s Punjab Alkalies & Chemicals Ltd., Punjab] vide letter dated November 07, 2017 is hereby revoked with the condition that the Unit shall submit Log book details showing performance of each stage of Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) for one month and one month daily analysis report of treated effluent from MoEF recognised laboratory from the date of resumption of its operation. The unit will ensure compliance with the norms. In case of non-compliance by the unit action, as deemed fit under the provisions of Environment (P) Act, 1986 shall be taken.


13/11/18
(S. P. Singh Parihar)
Chairman


Copy to:

1. The Chairman
Punjab State Pollution Control Board:
Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road,
Patiala-147001
With a request to ensure inspection of the
unit regularly for compliance verification
2. The Managing Director
Punjab State Power Corporation Limited:
PSEB Head Office, The Mall
Patiala, Punjab-147001
With request to restore electricity
supply of the unit
3. The Advisor (CP Division)
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
Prithvi Wing, 2nd Floor, Room No. 216
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 110003
4. The Regional Director
Central Pollution Control Board
Zonal Office (North), PICUP Bhawan
Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar Lucknow-226010
5. I/c, IPC-VI, CPCB, Delhi
6. I/c, IT Division, CPCB, Delhi


(A. Sudhakar)
Member Secretary