

**SPEED POST and E-MAIL**

B-33014/30/2013/AQM

October 25, 2018

To,

**The Chairman and Managing Director,  
M/s Reliance Industries Limited,  
Maker Chambers - IV  
Nariman Point  
Mumbai 400 021, India**

**Sub.: Directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 regarding installation of Stage I and Stage II vapour recovery systems in petrol refueling stations- Modified thereof**

WHEREAS, clean air is a matter of right and it is necessary to take steps towards improvement of Air Quality and for protecting public health National Ambient Air Quality Standards have been prescribed for 12 pollutants viz. PM, 5, PM10, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, CO, Ozone, NH<sub>3</sub>, Benzene, Benzo(a)pyrene, Pb, Ni, and As;

WHEREAS, many towns and cities, where ambient air is monitored under National Ambient Monitoring Programme, are not complying with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, particularly with respect to particulate matter pollution, and NO<sub>2</sub>, benzene and Ozone are becoming a matter of concern;

WHEREAS, petrol refueling stations are a major sources of emissions of benzene, which is a carcinogenic compound, and the people in the vicinity of these stations including the workers engaged in the dispensing activities may potentially be at risk of benzene exposure;

WHEREAS, petroleum refueling stations are also source of other volatile organic compounds (VOC), which are emitted from loading/unloading operations, and refueling of individual vehicles and are precursor to tropospheric ozone; therefore, requiring control of VOC emissions from such installations as an important step for improving air quality, particularly in regard to benzene and ozone.

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, vide Notifications No. GSR 913 (E) dated 24.10.89, has delegated the powers vested under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 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 the rules notified under the Environmental (Protection) Rules, 1986 and amendment thereof,

WHEREAS, Chairman, CPCB in exercise of the powers vested under Section 5 of The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 issued the following directions on February 22, 2016 to M/s Reliance Industries Limited for compliance:

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1. Stage I & II vapour recovery systems shall be installed in all the retail outlets with capacity 300 KLD and more, in 46 cities with million plus population (list annexed) by December 2017. The vapour recovery systems shall have minimum 80% vapour recovery efficiency;
2. All new retail outlets with capacity more than 300KLD, to be commissioned after date of issue of these directions, shall come up with modern dispensing units with in-built VRS facilities;
3. Retail outlets will mandatorily ensure switching off ignition of vehicles during refueling;
4. Submit city-wise action plans within 15 days from receipt of these directions;
5. Provide information regarding number of retail outlets with capacity > 300KLD, 100-300 KLD, and <100 KLD and VRS facilities installed/in progress in 46 cities with million plus population (as per annexed format), within 15 days from receipt of these directions; and

WHEREAS, in response to the directions, M/s Reliance Industries Limited vide letters dated 26/05/2016 submitted response/ progress report on compliance of directions to CPCB;


WHEREAS, an application titled as OA No. 147/2016: Aditya N. Prasad Vs Union of India & Ors. was filed before the Hon' ble National Green Tribunal seeking directions regarding installation of Stage I & II vapour recovery systems at fuel stations, distribution centers, terminals, railway loading/ unloading facilities and airports;

WHEREAS, Hon' ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated September 28, 2018 directed oil companies to ensure installation of VRS in petrol pumps selling more than 300 kl per month on or before 31.10.2018 and with regard to remaining on or before 31.12.2018;

WHEREAS, Hon' ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated September 28, 2018 directed CPCB to issue directions and ensure that necessary steps are taken by all the concerned;

NOW THEREFORE, in view of the above and in exercise of the powers vested under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the direction dated February 22, 2016 are hereby modified and accordingly M/s Reliance Industries Limited is hereby directed to ensure installation of VRS in petrol pumps selling more than 300 kl per month on or before 31.10.2018 and with regard to remaining petrol pump on or before 31.12.2018, and, submit time bound action plan for installation of vapour recovery system at distribution centers, terminals, railway loading/ unloading facilities and airports.

The M/s Reliance Industries Limited shall submit to CPCB compliance report for all petrol pumps selling more than 300 kl per month on November 01, 2019, and, fortnightly progress report for installations on remaining stations.

  
(S.P.S Parihar)  
Chairman  
o/c

**Copy to:**

1. **Joint Secretary,**  
**Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas,**  
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001  
:for information please
  
2. **Joint Secretary,**  
**CP Division,**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,**  
Indira Prayavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road,  
New Delhi - 110 003  
:for information please
  
3. **Divisional Head,**  
IT Division, CPCB

  
(Prashant Gargava)  
Member Secretary  
o/c