

SPEED POST

B-33014/07/2018/IPC-II/TPP/10005

August 13, 2018

To

The General Manager
M/s Bongaigaon Thermal Power Project
NTPC Ltd, Vill: Kunguri, P.O: Salakati
Dist: Kokrajhar - 788 369, Assam

Sub: Directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to M/s Bongaigaon Thermal Power Project, NTPC Ltd, Kokrajhar, Assam - Closure thereof.

WHEREAS, Thermal Power Plants are identified as one of the 17 categories of highly polluting industries in the country and have been discharging environmental pollutants directly or indirectly into ambient air and water, which pose constant threat to cause adverse effect on air and water quality; and

WHEREAS, for strengthening monitoring and compliance through self-regulatory mechanism, online emission and effluent monitoring systems need to be installed and operated by the developers and the industries on 'polluter pays principle'; and

WHEREAS, in order to verify the compliance and find out the status of online monitoring system, a team from Regional Directorate - North-East, Shillong carried out an inspection of M/s Bongaigaon Thermal Power Project (BTPP), NTPC Ltd, Kokrajhar, Assam during May 17 - 18, 2018 and made the following observations:

1. **Emission from Unit-2 was found non-complying with the prescribed standards.** The concentration of PM, SO₂ and NO_x during manual monitoring in Unit- 2 was observed to be **218 mg/Nm³, 937 mg/Nm³, 668 mg/Nm³** respectively against standards of 30 mg/Nm³, 100 mg/Nm³ and 100 mg/Nm³.
2. **M/s BTPP has not completed the FGD installation in Unit- 1 & 2 and the unit has set a target of March 31, 2019 for FGD installation.** Whereas, as per EC conditions, M/s BTPP shall have installed FGD in both the units since commissioning of Units.
3. M/s BTPP has installed CEMS for PM, SO₂, NO_x parameters and connected it with CPCB server. **However, during the inspection SO₂ & NO_x analysers were found non-operational.** M/s BTPP informed that some spares of SO₂/NO_x sensors need replacement which is under process.
4. M/s BTPP has installed OCEMS for effluent in the storm drain in which excess treated water would be released, if the situation arises. The same is connected with CPCB server. **However, the Plant has not installed Flow meter at source of water intake and outlet of ETP to quantify specific water consumption and discharge quantity.** The samples were collected from the storm drain. The results of manual tests were pH: 7.1, TSS: 14 mg/l and O&G: 2 mg/l. The effluent samples were found to be complying with prescribed standards.
5. M/s BTPP is treating only about 10 to 15% of total effluent generated from the Unit- 1 & 2 in the ETP. The remaining effluent is being discharged to the surface drain untreated.

6. The consent to operate (CTO) of M/s BTPP under Air and Water Acts, 1981 & 1974 is valid up to 31.03.2019. **M/s BTPP has not obtained Hazardous Waste Authorisation from Assam PCB.** M/s BTPP has not maintained records for disposal of Hazardous Wastes.

WHEREAS, based on observations made by the inspecting team from Regional Directorate - North-East, Shillong vide letter dated July 10, 2018, M/s BTPP was directed to show cause as to why the plant should not be closed for the shortcomings highlighted by the inspecting team and environmental compensation be not imposed in respect of the violations.

WHEREAS, vide letter dated 04.07.2018, M/s BTPP has submitted the following status of compliance:

1. The exceedance in PM values occurs mainly due to unit outages. During May 2018, low grade coal was fired to meet the grid demand which resulted in low ESP performance. The ESP performance has been improved to comply PM limits.
2. FGD system could not be commissioned along with the commissioning of units because of delay from main contractor M/s BHEL and the sub-contractor executing the work and local disturbances, ethnic violence and frequent extended Bandhs in the area. However, the FGD commissioning work is continuous and expected by March 2019.
3. The spare parts of SO₂ & NO_x analysers need to be replaced, which is under process. The same is expected to be completed by 30.07.2018.
4. A flow metre is installed at the outlet of Central Monitoring Basin and at Make Up Water Pump common discharge header. Additional flow metre at inlet will be installed by 31.08.2018.
5. The present connection of Plant drain to ETP is temporary. The work for permanent separation of Storm Water drain and Process Water drain has been awarded and shall be completed by Dec 2018. After ZLD system there shall be no discharge of effluent in drains.
6. Plant has applied for HWA in January 2017. The same has been again applied on 02.07.2018.

WHEREAS, as per letter dated 04.07.2018 of M/s BTPP the COD of Unit- 1 & 2 are 01.04.2016 and 01.11.2017 respectively, therefore, the respective limits of PM, SO₂ & NO_x in the new norms shall apply for Unit - 1 & 2;

WHEREAS, as per the revised plan submitted by the MoP to MoEF&CC vide letter dated 13.10.2017, M/s BTPP was shown to have installed FGD in its Unit- 1 & 2 to comply with SO₂ emission norms and no timeline has been given for upgradation of ESPs of Unit- 1 & 2 of M/s BTPP, which means that PM emission from both the units was also assumed to be complying with new PM emission limits notified vide notification dated 07.12.2015;

WHEREAS, 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 view of the non-compliances of new emission norms and in exercise of powers vested under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, M/s Bongaigaon Thermal Power Project (BTPP), NTPC Ltd, Kokrajhar, Assam is hereby directed not to operate Unit- 1 & 2 till achieving compliance of new emission norms.

(S.P.S. Parihar)
Chairman

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Copy to:

1. The Chairman
Pollution Control Board- Assam,
Bamunimaidam, **Guwahati - 781 021,**
Assam
2. The Addl. Secretary (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 - 110 003**
3. The Regional Director - North-East,
Central Pollution Control Board
"TUM-SIR", Lower Motinagar
Near Fire Brigade H.Q., **Shillong - 793 014**
4. The Divisional Head - IT, CPCB
5. The Divisional Head - IPC-VI, CPCB

(Prashant Gargava)
Member Secretary

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