

SPEED POST

B-33014/07/IPC-II/TPP/2018/ 11827

October 12, 2018

To

The General Manager/Plant Head
M/s Korba East Thermal Power Station,
Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board,
Korba - 495 677, Chhattisgarh

Sub: Directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 regarding installation of online effluent and emission monitoring system- Revocation thereof.

WHEREAS, the 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 the ambient air and water, which pose constant threat to cause adverse effect on the air and water quality; and

WHEREAS, for strengthening the 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, directions under section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 were issued on February 05, 2014 to all the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) for installation of online emission monitoring systems w.r.t PM, SO₂ & NO_x parameters & online effluent monitoring system for pH, TSS, & Temperature parameters in thermal power plants; and

WHEREAS, under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 a notice was served on July 21, 2015 to show cause as to why the plant should not be closed down, if the plant has not complied fully with directions issued w.r.t installation of on-line effluent and emission monitoring system by June 30, 2015, and the plant was further directed to install online continuous emission & effluent monitoring systems (OCEMS) for parameters namely PM, SO₂, NO_x & pH, TSS, Temperature, flow and submit the status; and

WHEREAS, M/s Korba East Thermal Power Station (KETPS), Unit - 1 to 6, CSPGCL, Korba, Chhattisgarh had failed to establish online connectivity of OCEMS for emission and effluent parameters with CPCB server and hence failed to comply the show cause notice cum directions issued vide letter dated 21.07.2015; and

WHEREAS, in order to hear the problems being faced in complying the above directions a meeting was held on 19.04.2017 with the representatives of 45 non-complying Thermal Power Plants under chairmanship of the Chairman, CPCB at CPCB, Delhi. As the justification given by the Plant representatives were not enough to explain the cause of non-compliance of show cause notice, prosecution was launched at National Green Tribunal, Principle Bench, New Delhi against 45 non-complying Thermal Power Plants.

WHEREAS, Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi in OA No. 409/2017 passed an order dated 24.10.2017 stating that "Central Pollution Control Board and all the State Pollution Control Boards to act in accordance with law. Law provides enough powers including power to direct closure and ensure closing of the defaulting industries. Concerned State Administration shall provide all assistance to the Boards for ensuring execution of their orders".

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WHEREAS, in view of the non-compliance of show cause notice cum directions dated 21.07.2015, a closure direction under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, was issued on 30.07.2018 to M/s Korba East Thermal Power Station (KETPS), Unit - 1 to 6, CSPGCL, Korba, Chhattisgarh.

WHEREAS, M/s KETPS vide letter dated 12.09.2018 has informed that Unit - 1 & 2 of the Plant have been closed and Units - 3 & 4 of the Plant will be closed on 14.09.2018 and for the remaining Units - 5 & 6 the connectivity of online monitoring system has been provided to CPCB server. M/s KETPS has requested to revoke closure directions issued vide letter dated 30.07.2018 for the operating Units - 5 & 6.

WHEREAS, the connectivity of online monitoring system for Unit - 5 & 6 of M/s KETPS has been got verified by the IT division of Central Pollution Control Board on 03.10.2018.


WHEREAS, M/s KETPS has also submitted that its Consent to Operate (CTO) issued by Chhattisgarh State Environment Conservation Board (CSECB) has expired on 14.09.2018 and the industry has applied for the renewal of CTO to CSECB on 16.07.2018.

WHEREAS, a meeting of the three-member committee constituted for examination and recommendation for revocation of closure direction issued by CPCB was held on 04.10.2018 and in view of the above, the committee recommended that the closure direction issued to M/s KETPS (Unit - 5 & 6) may be revoked with the condition that Plant shall operate with a valid Consent to Operate from CSECB.

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 exercise of powers vested under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, closure direction issued on 30.07.2018 to M/s Korba East Thermal Power Station, CSPGCL, Korba, Chhattisgarh is hereby revoked for Unit - 5 and 6 with the condition that Plant shall operate with a valid Consent to Operate from CSECB.

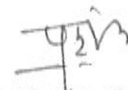
However, any expansion of the existing project shall be intimated to CPCB and CSECB and applicability and scope of the installation of OCEMS will be subjected to proposed expansion activities.


17/10/18
(S.P.S. Parihar)
Chairman



Copy to:

1. The Chairman
Chhattisgarh State Environment Conservation Board,
Paryavas Bhawan, North Block Sector-19,
Naya Raipur - 492 002, Chhattisgarh
2. The Additional 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
Central Pollution Control Board
4th Floor, Sahkar Bhawan, North TT Nagar,
Bhopal - 462 003
4. The District Magistrate,
Collectorate Office, Rampur Road,
Korba - 495 677, Chhattisgarh
- ✓ 5. The Divisional Head- IT, CPCB


(Prashant Gargava)
Member Secretary

