

SPEED POST

B-33014/30/2013/AQM 5383

September 18, 2020

To:

**The Chairman,**  
**M/s Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited**  
Bharat Bhawan, 4 and 6 Currimbhoy Road,  
Ballard, Mumbai 400001

**Sub.: Direction under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 regarding installation of Vapour Recovery Systems in petrol refueling stations other than Delhi-NCR - reg.**

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<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO, CO, Ozone, NH<sub>3</sub>, Benzene, Benzo(a)pyrene, Pb, Ni, and As;

WHEREAS, many towns and cities 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 source of benzene emissions, 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 that the VOCs gets converted to secondary organic aerosols which contributes to particulate matter 2.5 concentration; therefore, requiring control of VOC emissions from such installations as an important step for improving air quality;

WHEREAS, in view of this and in exercise of the powers vested under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, CPCB issued directions to M/s BPCL, to install VRS in existing petrol pumps selling more than 300 KLPM and located in 46 million plus cities, and, new petrol pumps coming up with sale potential of 300 KLPM;

WHEREAS, M/s BPCL, reported completion of VRS installation in majority of petrol pumps located in 46 million plus cities and that work on remaining petrol pumps is under progress;

WHEREAS, Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi vide order dated January 29, 2019 in O.A. No. 31/2019; K. Sathyadevan Vs Union of India & Ors directed CPCB to look into the issue of extension of requirement of Vapour Recovery System (VRS) in petrol pumps other than those selling petrol more than 300 Kilo litre petrol per month and located in cities with more than one million population;

WHEREAS, CPCB submitted report to Hon'ble NGT with recommendation of expert members for installation of VRS at retail outlets selling more than 100 KL per month and located in million plus cities and retail outlets selling more than 300 KL per month and located in cities with population between 01 lakh to 10 lakh;

WHEREAS, the Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 22.07.2019 directed that finalization of timelines for VRS installation as contemplated in the report, if not yet done, may be done within one month;

WHEREAS, the matter was referred to MoPNG and MoPNG vide letter dated 22.8.2019 informed that public sector OMCs namely IOCL, BPCL and HPCL have been advised to comply with the following timelines for installation of VRS:

VRS stage II: 100 % retail outlets by August 2022 out of which 50% of retail outlets shall have VRS by September 2021.

VRS stage IB: 100% retail outlets by February 2022 out of which 50% of retail outlets shall have VRS by July 2021.

VRS stage IA (Storage terminals): March 2024.

WHEREAS, CPCB on January 07, 2020 have issued guidelines for setting up of new petrol pumps recommending installation of VRS in all such new petrol pumps having sale potential more than 100 KLPM and located in million plus cities, and, petrol pumps with sale potential of more than 300 KLPM and located in cities with population between 01 lakh to 10 lakh;

NOW THEREFORE, in view of the above and in exercise of the power vested under Section 5 of the E(P) Act, 1986, M/s Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited is directed to comply with the following:

1. Complete installation of VRS at all existing retail outlets selling more than 100 KL per month and located in million plus cities, and, retail outlets selling more than 300 KL per month and located in cities with population between 01 lakh to 1 million (except Delhi-NCR) as per the prescribed timelines:

VRS stage II: 100 % retail outlets by August 2022 out of which 50% of retail outlets shall have VRS by September 2021.

VRS stage IB: 100% retail outlets by February 2022 out of which 50% of retail outlets shall have VRS by July 2021.

VRS stage IA (storage terminals): March 2024.

2. In the stage II VRS, provide dispenser nozzle with flexible cover flap or other alternative system for proper covering of vehicle filling point and therefore ensure proper recovery of vapors.
3. To implement mechanism for interlinking working of dispenser with VRS functioning, Online system shall be developed to monitor status of operation of VRS and in case of non-operation of VRS, the same shall be automatically reported to concerned OMC. VRS shall be brought into operation immediately within 24 hrs and in any case within 72 hrs failing which sale of MS shall be stopped from the fueling station. Proper records of operation of VRS shall be maintained.
4. To ensure proper maintenance of A/L regulator as prescribed by Legal Metrology and maintain proper records.

M/s. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited shall submit the progress report on installation of VRS with following details to CPCB within 04 weeks:

1. List of existing petrol pumps selling more than 100 KLM located in million plus cities. The list shall also indicate the station selling more than 300 KLM and installed VRS and stations with work in progress.

2. The list of retail outlets selling more than 300 KLM located in cities with population between 01 lakh to 10 lakh.

M/s Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited shall submit monthly progress report of installation of VRS. In case of failure to comply with the above timelines, action will be taken as per law.

(Shiv Das Meena)  
Chairman

Copy to:

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

(Prashant Gargava)  
Member Secretary