



केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय भारत सरकार
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE GOVT. OF INDIA

B-33014/9/2022-23/IPC-II/ 493

October 04, 2022
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To

The Unit Head
M/s Hills Cement Company Ltd.
Vill- Mynkree 116 KM Stone, NH-44,
Sub. Diy-Khliehriat, District-Jaintia Hills,
Meghalaya-793200

Sub: Revocation of closure direction under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

WHEREAS, the cement industries have been identified as one of the 17 categories of highly polluting industries which discharge 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, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change has notified emission norms for Particulate Matter, SO₂ & NO_x vide GSR 612 (E) dated 25.08.2014; and amended it vide GSR 496 (E) dated 09.05.2016 for all cement industries and vide GSR 497 (E) dated 10.05.2016 for cement industries, carrying out co-processing of wastes in their cement kilns; and

WHEREAS, on request of cement industries, timeline to comply with the aforesaid notified emission standards was extended up-to March 31, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the matter regarding reconsideration of notified standards was taken up by the Cement Manufacturers Association with the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC). In this context, it was decided by MoEF&CC that general extension would not be granted and any extension regarding compliance would be based on due assessment and submission of clear/specific road map for compliance with notified standards in a time bound manner. Accordingly, Directions under Section 3 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 were issued by MoEF&CC to CPCB on 28.03.2017 to ensure implementation of notified environmental standards for cement industries; and

WHEREAS, a series of meetings were convened by Regional Directorates of CPCB with Cement industries and State Pollution Control Boards to expedite submission of action plans and ensure compliance. Based on the inputs received, a standard format was developed to facilitate cement industries for submission of action plans in a precise & scientific manner and the same was circulated among cement manufacturers. Accordingly, all the cement industries were directed vide letter dated 30.03.2017 to submit the specific action plan as per the standard format before 30.04.2017; and

WHEREAS, action plan in standard format as directed vide letter dated 30.03.2017, was not submitted by M/s Hills Cement Company Ltd., Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya and therefore, closure direction dated 31.10.2017 was issued to the unit; and

WHEREAS, the unit replied to the closure direction vide letter dated 04.12.2017 and submitted action plan in CPCB's prescribed format. The unit being an integrated cement plant with production capacity > 200 TPD, a letter dated 03.01.2018 was sent

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to the unit for (i) installation of OCEMS for required parameters & processes and ensuring transmission of OCEMS data to CPCB server as per earlier directions of CPCB vide letter dated 24.07.2015 and (ii) submission of copy of valid consent issued by Meghalaya SPCB; and

WHEREAS, the unit submitted a revocation request on 09.01.2018, informing that they have commissioned OCEMS analyser. As per IT division report dated 06.03.2018 unit was found connected for PM, SO₂ and NO_x with CPCB server and a letter dated 20.06.2018 was sent to the unit to submit copy of valid consent, issued by Meghalaya SPCB; and

WHEREAS, during a surprised inspection on SMS alert basis carried out by RD-Shillong on 21.08.2019 the unit was found operational and grossly violating w.r.t. PM and SO₂ emissions from clinker and kilns. A letter was sent to Meghalaya SPCB on 10.12.2019 for ensuring closure of operation of the unit in compliance of closure direction; and

WHEREAS, the unit submitted a revocation request on 11.01.2020, informing that installation and connectivity of OCEMS had been completed as per CPCB guidelines; and

WHEREAS, a letter dated 09.03.2020 and e-mail dated 26.11.2021 were sent to the unit for submission of copy of valid CTO, adequacy report of emission control system from reputed Government Institute and self-closure certificate in CPCB format; and

WHEREAS, the unit has submitted revocation request vide letter dated 07.07.2022 and related information by emails dated 18.07.2022 and 27.07.2022, along with adequacy report for emission control system, the unit has forwarded valid copy of CTO, audit report of ECS, Self-closure certificate, and OCEMS connectivity details indicating that the unit had installed adequate emission control system to achieve emission below the standards; and

WHEREAS, the unit has provided OCEMS connectivity with CPCB server and the 3-member revocation committee, constituted for examination and recommending revocation of closure directions, in its meeting on 05.08.2022 recommended that (i) the closure direction issued to M/s Hills Cement Company Ltd., Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya may be revoked and (ii) a report be sought from SPCB regarding compliance of closure direction and period of violation for computing environmental compensation as per Environmental Compensation Policy framed by CPCB in compliance of Hon'ble NGT order dt.-31.08.2018 in OA No. 593/2017; and


Now THEREFORE, in view of the above and exercising the powers delegated to the Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 vide Ministry of Environment, Forest and climate change, Government of India Notification No. S. O. 157 (E) of 27.02.1996 and S. O. 730 (E) dated 10.07.2002 the closure directions issued to M/s Hills Cement Company Ltd., Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya dated 31.10.2017 is hereby revoked with conditions that:

1. The unit shall communicate date of commencement of plant operation to CPCB. The revocation of closure direction would be for an initial period of three months after commencement of the plant operation, and in case of compliance of the emission/effluent norms as per prescribed standards, further revocation would be deemed as having been granted.

M/s Hills Cement Company, NH-44 Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya

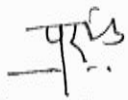
2. The unit shall ensure uninterrupted data connectivity of OCEMS with CPCB server after resumption of operation of the plant.
3. The unit shall pay environmental compensation for the period of non-compliance as verified by Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board.
4. The unit shall ensure periodic calibration of the analysers as per standard operating procedure/recommendations of the supplier and submit the calibration results.

In case of non-compliance by the unit, action as deemed fit under the provisions of Environment (P) Act, 1986, including imposition of environmental compensation as per Environmental Compensation Policy framed by CPCB in compliance of Hon'ble NGT order dt. -31.08.2018 in OA No. 593/2017, shall be taken.

15/6/20
[Tanmay Kumar]
Chairman


Copy to:

1.	The Chairman Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board, "ARDEN", Lumpynggad, Shillong-793014, Meghalaya	:	A report regarding compliance of closure direction and period of violation may be provided for deciding environmental compensation.
2.	The Deputy Commissioner, East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehriat - 793 200, Meghalaya	:	For information and necessary action.
3.	The Joint Secretary -CP Division Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change Prithvi Wing, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 110003	:	For kind your information.
4.	The Regional Director Regional Directorate (North-East) Central Pollution Control Board TUM- SIR, Lower Motinagar, Near Fire Brigade H.Q. Shillong - 793014	:	A report regarding compliance of closure direction and period of violation may be provided for deciding environmental compensation.
5.	The Divisional Head IT, CPCB, Delhi	:	For information please.
6.	The Divisional Head, IPC-VI, CPCB Delhi	:	For information please.


[Prashant Gargava]
Member Secretary
