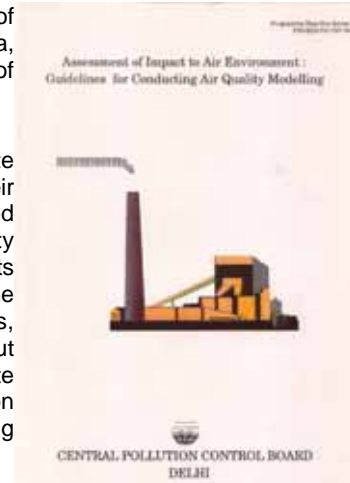


Assessment of Impact to to Air Environment : Guidelines for Conducting Air Quality Modelling

Foreword

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) notification of May 4, 1994 of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India, makes it mandatory to carry out EIA study before certain categories of industries are sited, or an existing industry is expanded.

Air being an integral part of environment, the proponents must demonstrate the attainment of satisfactory ambient air quality in the vicinity of their source complex. Attainment of satisfactory air quality is generally predicted through dispersion modelling. The present practice for ambient air quality predictions is through application of Gaussian Plume Model and its available variations. The experience so far, has shown that, at times, the model has been used incorrectly, and the values of various parameters, required for modelling, are adopted from other countries without understanding their applicability in Indian context. There is an immediate need to evolve guidelines for conducting air quality modelling for inclusion in EIA procedure so that a uniform and acceptable procedure for modelling is available.



This report on Air Quality Modelling is an effort to streamline the modelling procedure for the purpose of obtaining environmental clearance. We hope that this report will prove useful for project proponents, consultants, regulatory agencies and others interested in pollution control.

I gratefully acknowledge the time and efforts put in by various experts towards completion of the report, particularly, by Dr. V.V. Shirvaikar who chaired the Expert Committee. I would also like to place on record my sincere appreciation for the efforts made by colleagues Dr. J.K Maitra, Dr. B. Sengupta and Dr. Mukesh Sharma in bringing out this report

Dilip Biswas
Chairman, CPCB