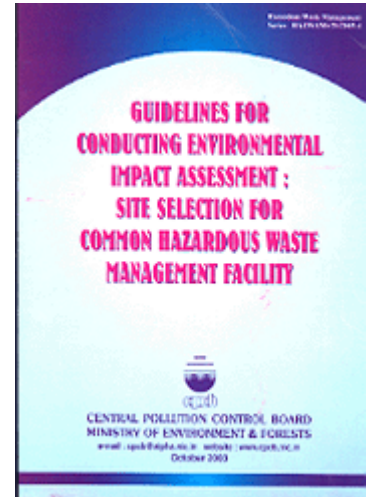


Guidelines for conducting Environmental Impact Assessment : Site Selection for Common Hazardous Waste Management Facility

Foreword

The Ministry of Environment & Forests, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, imposed certain restrictions on the expansion and modernisation of any activity or new projects being undertaken in the country unless environmental clearance is accorded by the Central Government [vide notification No. S.O. 60 (E), January 27, 1994]. For this purpose, the project proponent is required to submit, among other things, statement of environment impact assessment of the proposed activity.

The Rule 8 of the Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989, as amended in January 2000, provides for preliminary impact assessment studies to identify possible sites for disposal facility of hazardous wastes. Further, there is also requirement to undertake an environmental impact assessment of these sites for selecting an appropriate site for hazardous waste disposal facility.



The High Powered Committee (HPC) on the Management of Hazardous Wastes under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.G.K. Menon, constituted by the Order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India (in the matter of CWP 657 of 1995) has also dealt with the issue of environmental impact assessment of the hazardous wastes disposal sites and recommended certain approach for conducting impact assessment studies for site selection.

In order to facilitate the selection of sites for hazardous waste disposal and to bring in certain uniformity in conducting the environmental impact assessment studies, Expert Committee on Management of Hazardous Wastes in Central Pollution Control Board has considered the issue and decided to publish these guidelines.

This report is the outcome of inputs from Dr. A.K. Saxena, Director, National Productivity Council, New Delhi, Dr. D.B. Boralkar, Assistant Secretary & Senior Scientist and Dr. Inamul Haq, Senior Scientist, Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi. Ms. Tanushree Ghosh provided secretarial assistance. I hope this document would be useful to various stake holders in the field.

(V. Rajagopalan)
Chairman, CPCB