

केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

(पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

(MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS, GOVT. OF INDIA)

Dated: July 3, 2015

F.No. B-23012/1/PCI-III

To

Shri J.S.Yadav,
Member Secretary,
Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board,
Building No. TC-12V,
Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow – 226010

Subject:

Follow up actions: CPCB directions issued on 24/2/15 under section 18(1)(b) of the Water Act, 1974 to Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB) for implementation of 'Charter for Water Recycling & Pollution Prevention in Pulp & Paper Industry'- regd.

Sir,

As per the above referred CPCB's directions, Pulp & Paper industrial Units operating in U.P. were directed to submit a time bound action plan as affidavit by March 31, 2015 for implementation of the Charter and to comply with the prescribed norms. On request of the industry associations, the last date of submission of action plans was extended upto May 15, 2015. Accordingly, CPCB received individual action plans from 80 mills, out of 106 mills operating in UP.

CPCB vide order dated 21/5/2015 constituted a Committee to evaluate and validated individual action plans within 30 days. The Committee has evaluated all 80 action plans received from mills operating in UP.

It is requested to ensure execution of following actions for timely implementation of the Charter in compliance with CPCB's directions dated February 24, 2015:

- The expert committee constituted by CPCB has evolved an indicative Mile Stone Chart (Annexure-I) for timely implementation of the Bare Minimum Technology/ Activities prescribed under the Charter. The milestone chart shall be applicable to all the participating mills. The validated action plan of each individual mill shall comprise of their individual action plan, validation report and mile stone chart. Monitoring of implementation of action plans shall be commenced w.e.f. July 1, 2015.
- 2. The validated action plans/ verification reports of 70 mills (Annexure-II) are being forwarded/ e-mailed herewith to UPPCB for (a) forwarding the reports to concerned mills for implementation as per the time schedule prescribed under the Charter; (b) submission of monthly progress report to UPPCB & CPCB and the same shall be the main part of consent.

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- 3. The action plan submitted by 10 pulp & paper mills listed at Annexure- III have not been found in order due to lack of information to carry out validation. These mills should be asked by UPPCB to re-submit their revised action plans to CPCB & UPPCB incorporating the necessary details within two weeks. However, these mills should start implementation activities related to charter implementation as per mile stone chart.
- 4. UPPCB to carry out field verification of the present compliance status and information/ data provided by mills in their action plans; carry out progress verification on monthly/ quarterly basis and forward the consolidated progress report to CPCB on quarterly basis w.e.f. July 1, 2015.
- 5. UPPCB to modify consent orders issued to these mills (80) and to link the implementation of the validated action plans/ validation reports and mile stone chart as per the time schedule prescribed under the Charter with the Consent Conditions, as directed vide CPCB directions dated 24/2/15. Copy of modified consent orders shall be forwarded to CPCB before July 31, 2015.
- 6. The 'consent to operate' issued to those mills which have not submitted their action plans to UPPCB/ CPCB may be revoked with immediate effect till submission & validation of their action plans.
- 7. The issue of straw board mills carrying out semi- chemical pulping of agro residues with lime using rotary batch digesters was also discussed by the Committee. The committee recommended that no mill should be allowed to use digesters for chemical pulping of agro residues without having proper CRP facility, as the process involves chemical delignification and effluent contains dissolved lignin which is non-biodegradable. These mills should either not carry out chemical pulping in digesters or switch over to waste paper based production to comply with requirements of charter for RCF based unbleached grade including adequate ETP up to tertiary level. Before resumption of manufacturing operation, all digesters shall be dismantled & removed from the premises.
- 8. As per information available with CPCB, there are 16 wood/ agro based mills having CRP facilities and 12 CRPs/ common CRPs operational in UP. To ensure regular operation of CRPs to achieve zero black liquor discharge from these mills & CRPs, UPPCB shall carry out auditing of all the CRPs operating in their States through expert institutions to assess adequacy & performance of CRPs, mills chemical pulping capacities, CRPs regular/ proper operation & maintenance, commissioning of recording & monitoring systems connected to PLC based logic or DCS and record keeping, etc. as per the 'Protocol for operation of CRPs' (please see the Charter). The audited report of each of the mills having chemical pulping facilities & CRPs shall be forwarded to CPCB within 45 days.
- 9. UPPCB shall carry out performance monitoring of all the CRPs operating in their States with regard to their regular/ proper operation, performance, metering and record keeping, etc. as per the 'Protocol for operation of CRPs' and forward the consolidated reports to CPCB on monthly basis w.e.f. July 1, 2015.

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10. UPPCB in consultation with CPCB shall identify recipient drains wherein these 16 mills/ 12 CRPs discharge their effluents. UPPCB shall carry out wastewater sampling & analysis from identified u/s & d/s locations of these identified drains on fortnightly/ monthly and random basis to monitor any bypass/ illegal discharge of black liquor from these mills/ CRPs into these drains and forward the consolidated data/ reports to CPCB on monthly basis w.e.f. August 1, 2015. Comparative analysis of u/s & d/s data will help in monitoring of bypass discharge.

You are requested to kindly ensure timely implementation of the above mentioned action points, including forwarding of action taken reports, audit reports, monthly progress reports & monitoring data/ reports to CPCB. However, we would like to clarify that the above suggested action points and the directions issued, by no mean will absolve SPCB/ CPCB for taking any action under Water/ Air/ Environment (Protection) Acts wherever such condition arises.

It is also requested that UPPCB may please provide any views/ observations on the above statements given under para 1 to 10 before July 20, 2015.

Yours faithfully

(A.B.Akolkar) Member Secretary

Enclosure: as above.