No. J-11013/5/2010-IA.II(I) Government of India Ministry of Environment & Forests

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Dated the 10th June 2014

Office Memorandum

Sub: Consideration of projects for environmental clearance based on Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) – Re-imposing of Moratorium in respect of critically polluted areas namely Ghaziabad (UP), Indore (M.P.), Jharsuguda (Orissa), Ludhiana (Punjab), Panipat (Haryana), Patancheru – Bollaram (A.P.), Singraulli (UP & MP) and Vapi (Gujarat), and projects / activities to be allowed in Critically Polluted Areas under moratorium – Regarding keeping in abeyance OM dated 17th September, 2013 w.r.t. re-imposition of moratorium in aforesaid eight critically polluted areas.

Ministry of Environment & Forests vide Office Memorandum of even no. dated 17.09.2013 had *inter alia* re-imposed moratorium until further orders on consideration of projects for environmental clearance in eight critically polluted areas (CPAs) as stated in the subject above.

- 2. While re-imposing the moratorium in eight CPAs vide aforesaid OM dated 17.09.2013, CPCB was also directed that the entire CEPI study, particularly in areas where the moratorium has been re-imposed be reviewed and re-assessed after a period of four months. The report with respect to the entire CEPI concept i.e. taking into account all constituents as originally formulated in 2009, is yet to be received from CPCB. It is felt that re-assessment of CEPI taking into account all its constituents as originally formulated in 2009 is a must before taking a view on re-imposition of moratorium in any CPA.
- 3. It has, therefore, been decided to keep in abeyance until further orders the aforesaid O.M. dated 17th September, 2013 to the extent it related to the re-imposition of moratorium in eight CPAs till CPCB re-assesses the CEPI taking into account all constituents of index as originally envisaged in 2009, subject to the following stipulations:-
 - (i) All projects requiring EC in these areas will be considered only by MoEF;
 - (ii) At the stage of TORs, the EAC concerned would, in such cases, spell out the due diligence required in terms of assessment of baseline conditions of ambient air, water bodies, etc. as applicable and provide guidance on monitoring locations, parameters, etc. In doing so, in addition to pollutants to be discharged / emitted by

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the proposed project, the pollutants of concern in the area would also be kept in view. Assessment of performance of common facilities such as CETP, TSDF, etc. if proposed to be utilized should also be included as part of due diligence;

- (iii) In addition to monitoring by the regional office concerned, third party monitoring by a reputed agency at a frequency to be specified by the EAC would be necessary;
- (iv) The implementation of action plan of each of these eight CPAs to be jointly reviewed by the CPCB and SPCB on quarterly basis and report sent to MoEF by the 7th day of the month succeeding the end of quarter.
- 4. CPCB is directed to get the re-assessment of CEPI score done in all 43 CPAs, including these 8 CPAs, within a period of one year and report the outcome to the Ministry. The re-assessment of CEPI score should take into account all constituents of the index as originally formulated in 2009. Also, CPCB should properly demarcate each of these 43 CPAs by physical verification and clearly state the latitude, longitude, name of cities and villages and survey numbers (in case of part city and / or village) w.r.t. these areas.
- 5. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(S.C. Garkoti)
Director

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To

- 1. All the Officers of IA Division
- 2. Chairpersons I Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/SEACs
- 3. Chairman, CPCB
- 4. Chairpersons/Member Secretaries of all SPCBs /UTPCCs.

Copy to:

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- 3. PPS to AS(SS)
- 4. PPS to JS (AT)
- 5. Website, MoEF
- 6. Guard File

