

MINUTES OF THE 18TH MEETING OF THE RE-CONSTITUTED EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE (EAC) ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) OF THERMAL POWER PROJECTS HELD ON 23RD DECEMBER, 2021

The 18th Meeting of the re-constituted EAC (Thermal Power) organized by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi was held on 23rd December, 2021 through video conference under the Chairmanship of Shri Gururaj P. Kundargi. The list of Members participated in the meeting is at **Annexure**.

Agenda Item No. 18.1:

Confirmation of the Minutes of the 17th EAC meeting

The Minutes of the 17th EAC (Thermal Power) meeting held on 30th November, 2021 were confirmed in the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 18.2:

Installation of Captive Power Plant of 8 MW capacity based on WHRB/ AFBC boilers within the existing premises in an area of 8.77 acres at Village Manjhiladih, Tehsil & Dist. Giridih, Jharkhand by M/s Balmukund Sponge and Iron Private Limited (Sponge Division) – Terms of References (TOR) – reg.

[Proposal No. IA/JH/THE/236211/2021; F. No. J-13012/6/2021-IA. I (T)]

18.2.1 The Member Secretary informed the EAC that PP vide email dated 22nd November, 2021 informed the Ministry that “due to unavoidable circumstances they are not in position to present their case for ToR on 23rd December, 2021. Accordingly, EAC decided to **defer** the proposal.

Agenda Item No. 18.3:

3x800 MW (Phase-I) Patratu Super Thermal Power Project in area of 1,234 acres at Village and Tehsil Patratu, District Ramgarh, Jharkhand by M/s Patratu Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited – Amendment in Environment Clearance (EC) – reg.

[Proposal No. IA/JH/THE/240635/2021; F. No. J-13012/21/2015-IA. I (T)]

18.3.1 The proposal is for grant of amendment in Environment Clearance (EC) to 3x800 MW (Phase-I) Patratu Super Thermal Power Project in area of 1,234 acres at Village and Tehsil Patratu, District Ramgarh, Jharkhand by M/s Patratu Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited.

18.3.2 The details of the project submitted by project proponent and ascertained from the document

submitted are mentioned below:

- i. Patratu Super Thermal Power Project 3x800 MW (Phase-I) is located at Latitude: 23° 37' 53"N to 23° 39' 07"N and Longitude: 85° 16' 57"E to 85° 17' 59"E. Plant area is located at Village and Tehsil Patratu, District Ramgarh, Jharkhand.
- ii. Source of Coal: Banhardih Captive Coal Mining blocks allotted to PVUNL. Coal requirement is 3 MTPA. Water requirement is fulfilled from Patratu (Nalkari) Reservoir on Nalkari River (2.4 km). Total project cost at present level is ₹18668 Crores.
- iii. Environment Clearance was accorded by MoEF&CC vide letter no. J-13012/21/2015-IA-I(T) dated 7th November, 2011 for 3x800 MW Patratu Super Thermal Power Project at Patratu, District Ramgarh, Jharkhand.
- iv. In EC dated 7th November, 2011 specific condition Clause No. xxviii it is mentioned that:

*“A long term study of radio activity and heavy metals contents on coal to be used shall be carried out through a reputed institute. Thereafter mechanism for an **in-built continuous monitoring** for radio activity and heavy metals in coal and fly ash (including bottom ash) shall be put in place.”* The project proponent submitted online proposal no. IA/BR/THE/236422/2021 on 29th October 2021 seeking amendment in the aforesaid condition.

Amendment sought:

The PP has requested that the term **“in-built continuous”** in aforesaid stipulation may be amended with **“regular periodical monitoring”**.

Justification from PP:

- a) PVUNL has explored the technologies for in-built continuous monitoring of radioactivity and heavy metals in coal and ash. It may kindly be noted that no instrument for online in-built continuous monitoring of heavy metals is available. Only periodic sampling of Heavy metals and radioactivity is usually being conducted through reputed Laboratory/ Institute.
- b) The above-mentioned condition has been amended by MOEF&CC for our parent company's (NTPC) other projects like Firoz Gandhi Unchahar STPP Stage-IV (1x500 MW) and Telengana STPP Stage IV, Phase-I (2x800 MW).

18.3.3 *The EAC after detailed deliberations on information submitted by the project proponent recommended the proposal for amendment in EC condition as requested by the PP subject to compliance of following additional conditions:*

- i. *24x7 online Continuous monitoring system for ambient air quality parameters SO_x, NO_x and PM shall be established with connected server to CPCB and SPCB.*

ii. *Other conditions of the EC letter dated 7th November, 2011 shall remain unchanged.*

Agenda Item No. 18.4:

Expansion of 470 MW to 680 MW with an additional 45 MW and Debottlenecking of Existing Petrochemical Complex at Hazira by M/s Reliance Industries Limited – Terms of Reference – reg.

[Proposal No. IA/GJ/THE/238436/2021; F. No. J-13012/5/2021-IA. I (T)]

18.4.1 The Member Secretary informed the EAC that the proposal for grant of Terms of Reference for conducting EIA study for proposed expansion of Captive Power generation capacity of HMD complex from 470 MW to 680 MW from power plants and an additional 45 MW through energy recovery from PTA and CF units of existing petrochemical complex at Hazira by M/s Reliance Industries Limited has been considered during in 17th EAC meeting held on 30th November, 2021.

After considering the proposal, the EAC recommended for grant of Standard Terms of Reference along with certain additional Terms of Reference including as under:

1. *PP shall prepare Cumulative Impact Assessment considering all the source of pollution within 10 km of buffer zone by collecting fresh one season baseline data (other than data already collected-if any)”*
2. *PP should submit the real time aerial footage by using Drone and video of the project area.*

The PP vide email dated 20th December, 2021 requested to permit them to base their EIA study on the baseline data already available for the study zone. The PP also requested that real time drone videography of the site as recommended by the EAC is not feasible due to safety and security risk.

The PP informed that One season’s baseline data has been collected in Summer 2021 in the surrounding villages and additional one-month’s monitoring data during four weeks covering Oct-Nov 2021 has been collected by NABET accredited consultant. The data was collected in the recent past and in the same calendar year. No new monitoring locations have been prescribed in the additional ToR for monitoring which suggests that the locations where the data is already collected is sufficient for further assessment. According to OM No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II (I) (Part) dated 29.08.2017, issued by the Ministry the baseline data is valid till 3 years from date of monitoring. The OM also outlines that the baseline data collection may be carried out at any stage, irrespective of date of application/issue of for ToR. The condition # 1 as prescribed in the additional ToR will set-back of at least 24 to 28 weeks in the timeline for obtaining the environmental clearance which will consequently delay the commencement of the project.

18.4.2 *The EAC after detailed deliberation accepted the request made by the project proponent. Accordingly, the EAC recommended that PP may use the baseline data already collected; however, all parameters should be monitored as prescribed by the Ministry and the data collected should not be*

older than 3 Years. The EAC also recommended to show real-time Drone videography of the project site during the presentation before EAC rather uploading on public domain while appraising the project for Environmental Clearance.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

ATTENDANCE

S. No	Name	Role	Attendance
1.	Shri Gururaj P. Kundargi	Chairman	P
2.	Shri SuramyaVora	Member	P
3.	Dr Santosh Kumar	Member	P
4.	Dr. Umesh Jagannathrao Kahalekar	Member	P
5.	Shri K.B. Biswas	Member	P
6.	Dr. Nandini. N	Member	P
7.	Dr. Unmesh Patnaik	Member	P
8.	Shri M.P. Singh	Member (Representative of CEA)	P
9.	Prof. S. S. Rai	Member Representative of IIT/ISM Dhanbad	P
10.	Shri Yogendra Pal Singh	Member Secretary	P

APPROVAL OF THE CHAIRMAN

Fwd: Draft MoM of 18th EAC Thermal sector_23-12-2021

From : Yogendra Pal Singh <yogendra78@nic.in>
Subject : Fwd: Draft MoM of 18th EAC Thermal sector_23-12-2021
To : geetdeepbisht <geetdeepbisht@gmail.com>

From: gpkundargi@gmail.com
To: "Yogendra Pal Singh" <yogendra78@nic.in>
Sent: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 10:37:22 AM
Subject: Re: Draft MoM of 18th EAC Thermal sector_23-12-2021

Dear Yogendra ji
Draft Minutes are in order & approved as there are no observation from other members.You may take further action.
Thank you
G P Kundargi

On Mon, 3 Jan, 2022, 3:57 pm Yogendra Pal Singh, <yogendra78@nic.in> wrote:

Dear Sir,
Please find attached Draft Minuets of 18th EAC Meeting held on 23rd December, 2021 for perusal,and comments, if any.

With Regards,

Yogendra Pal Singh
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