

## **MINUTES OF THE 29<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE RE-CONSTITUTED EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE (EAC) ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) OF THERMAL POWER PROJECTS HELD ON 24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2022**

The 29<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2022 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.29.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> EAC meeting**

The Minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> EAC (Thermal Power) meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2022 were confirmed in the meeting.

### **Agenda Item No. 29.2**

**Regularisation of 3 × 21 = 63 MW Gas-based Thermal Power Station in an area of 55.89ha at Rokhia in village Manikyanagar, Boxanagar PS, District Sepahijala, Tripura by M/s Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited – Environment Clearance (EC) – reg.**

**[Proposal No. IA/TR/THE/125111/2019; F. No. J-13012/13/2019-IA.I(T)]**

**29.2.1** The proposal is submitted under violation category for grant of Environmental Clearance to the project for Regularisation of 3 × 21 = 63 MW Gas-based Thermal Power Station in an area of 55.89ha at Rokhia in village Manikyanagar, Boxanagar PS, District Sepahijala, Tripura by M/s Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited.

**29.2.2** The details of the project submitted by project proponent and ascertained from the document submitted are mentioned below:

- (i) Project falls under category B, however needs to be considered as category A, since General Condition is applicable (located within 10 km from India-Bangladesh International Boundary).
- (ii) The silent features of the project is as under:

#### **Project Details:**

<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Regularization of Environmental Clearance for 3 × 21 = 63 MW (OC) gas-based Thermal Power Station at Rokhia, village Veluarchar, district Sepahijala, Tripura.
<b>Proposal No.</b>	<b>IA/TR/THE/1 25111/2019</b>
<b>Location</b>	Village Veluarchar, District Sepahijala, Tripura.
<b>Company's Name</b>	Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited (TSECL)
<b>Accredited Consultant and certificate no.</b>	MITCON Consultancy & Engineering Services Ltd. (Pune) Accreditation Certificate No.: NABET/EIA/2124/RA 0229_Rev 02

<b>Inter- state issue involved</b>	No
<b>Seismic zone</b>	Zone V

**Category details:**

<b>Category of the project</b>	A
<b>Capacity</b>	63 MW
<b>Attracts the General Conditions (Yes/No)</b>	Yes
<b>Additional information (if any)</b>	Project falls under category B, however needs to be considered as category A, since General Condition is applicable (located within 10 km from India-Bangladesh International Boundary)

<b>Cost of the Project (As per EC and revised):</b>	85.17 Crores (GT Unit #7) + 80.94 Crores (GT Unit #8) + 85 Crores (GT Unit #9) = <b>Rs. 251.11 Cr.</b>
<b>Cost of the proposed activity in the amendment:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Employment Potential for entire project / plant and employment potential for the proposed amendment (specify number of persons and quantitative information)</b>	45 nos. (37 skilled and 8 unskilled)
<b>Benefits of the project (specify quantitative information)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electricity generation</li> <li>• Employment potential</li> <li>• CER activities planned with cost allocation of Rs. 1.88 Cr. over the next five years.</li> </ul>

**Electricity generation capacity:**

<b>Capacity &amp; Unit Configurations</b>	Total generation capacity of 63 MW (3 gas-turbine units with generation capacity of 21 MW each)
<b>Generation of Electricity Annually</b>	<b>468 MU</b>

**Details of fuel and Ash disposal:**

<b>Fuel to be used</b>	Natural gas
<b>Quantity of Fuel required per Annum</b>	208.05 MMSCM (0.19 MMSCM per day per GT unit or 0.57 MMSCM per day for 3 GT units)
<b>Coal Linkage / Coal Block (If Block allotted, status of EC &amp; FC of the Block)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Details of mode of transportation of coal from coal source to the plant premises along with distances</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Fly Ash Disposal System Proposed</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Ash Pond / Dyke (Area, Location &amp; Co-ordinates): Average height of area above MSL (m):</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Quantity of a. Fly Ash to be generated: b. Bottom Ash to be generated:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Fly Ash utilization (details)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Stack Height (m) &amp; Type of Flue</b>	3 separate Stacks (1 for each unit) – 10 m high (3.9 m dia.)

**Water Requirement:**

<b>Source of Water:</b>	Groundwater (Bore-well)
<b>Quantity of water requirement:</b>	0.85 m <sup>3</sup> /d (0.6 m <sup>3</sup> /d for process and 0.25 m <sup>3</sup> /d for domestic use)
<b>Distance of source of water from Plant:</b>	665 m
<b>Whether barrage / weir / intake well / jack well / others proposed:</b>	No
<b>Mode of conveyance of water:</b>	Underground Pipeline
<b>Status of water linkage:</b>	
<b>(If source is Sea water) Desalination Plant Capacity</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Mode / Management of Brine:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Cooling system</b>	Closed loop water circulation

**Land Area Breakup:**

<p><b>Land Requirement:</b></p> <p>a. TPP Site -</p> <p>b. Ash Pond -</p> <p>c. Township -</p> <p>d. Railway Siding &amp; Others -</p> <p>e. Raw Water Reservoir –</p> <p>f. Green Belt -</p> <p>g. others -</p> <p><b>Total (if expansion state additional land requirement) -</b></p>	<p>2.44 ha. (Built-up area and Switchyard area)</p> <p>0 ha. (Not Applicable)</p> <p>0 ha.</p> <p>0 ha.</p> <p>0 ha.</p> <p>2.66 ha.</p> <p>1.9 ha. (Roads, Parking and other open areas)</p> <p><b>7.001 ha.</b></p>
<p><b>Status of Land Acquisition:</b></p>	<p>Not Applicable</p>
<p><b>Status of the project:</b></p> <p><b>If under construction phase: please specify the reasons for delay, works completed till date and balance works along with expected date of completion.</b></p> <p><b>If under operation phase, date of commissioning (COD) of each unit. Whether the plant was under shutdown since commissioning, details and reasons</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The gas-based Thermal Power Station at Rokhia, in Sepahijala District of Tripura state owned by Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited, was established between 1990 &amp; 2013. The 6 Units of 8 MW capacity established earlier, have been replaced with 3 Units of 21 MW capacity each.</li> <li>❖ However, no environmental clearances were obtained for establishment of the three 21 MW units. Thus, the project is considered as Violation under EPA Act (1986) / EIA Notification (2006) and its subsequent amendments [No. S.O.804 (E) dated 14.03.2017]</li> <li>❖ Application for Regularization of EC for the Gas Based Thermal Power Station at Rokhia was uploaded on 13/11/2019 through PARIVESH.</li> <li>❖ Project considered in 36<sup>th</sup> EAC (Thermal) Meeting held on 04/12/2019 wherein project was deferred, and the EAC recommended that since it is a Violation project, all operations must be stopped until EC is regularized.</li> <li>❖ The project was again considered in 40<sup>th</sup> EAC (Thermal) Meeting held on 14/05/2020 wherein the proposal was again deferred till the action as directed by the Ministry is completed.</li> <li>❖ Accordingly, ‘Stop Operations’ direction was issued from TSPCB on 08/06/2020.</li> <li>❖ In pursuance to these orders from MoEF&amp;CC (dated 02/03/2020) and from TSPCB (dated 08/06/2020), operational capacity has been reduced to 42 MW to maintain below 50 MW capacity,</li> <li>❖ Operation of GT Unit # 8 has been stopped w.e.f. 10/06/2020.</li> <li>❖ After various communications and clarifications sought between the CEA, NERPC, MoEF&amp;CC and the Project Proponent, the</li> </ul>

	<p>Project was once again considered in 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Re-constituted EAC (Thermal) held on 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 for reconsideration of Terms of Reference (ToR).</p> <p>❖ Terms of Reference (ToR) granted vide F. No. J-13012/13/2019-IA.I (T) dated 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 with additional conditions.</p>
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<p><b>Break-Up of land-use of TPP site:</b></p> <p><b>a. Total land required for project components -</b></p> <p><b>b. Private land -</b></p> <p><b>c. Government land -</b></p> <p><b>d. Forest Land -</b></p>	<p>7.001 ha.</p> <p>0 ha.</p> <p>7.001 ha.</p> <p>0 ha.</p>
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### 29.2.3 The EAC during deliberations noted the following:

The proposal is for grant of Environmental Clearance to the project for Regularisation of  $3 \times 21 = 63$  MW Gas-based Thermal Power Station in an area of 55.89 Acres at Rokhia in village Manikyanagar, Boxanagar PS, District Sepahijala, Tripura by M/s Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited. The proposal has been submitted under violation category.

The Terms of Reference to the project was granted vide letter dated 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 by MoEF&CC.

Public Consultation was conducted by Tripura State Pollution Control Board (TSPCB), at Geetanjali Multipurpose Community Hall, Manikyanagar, near the project site on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 11:00 am, under the Chairmanship of Additional District Magistrate (ADM) of Sepahijala district, Shri S. Bandopadhyay.

The assessment of ecological damage with respect to air, water, land and other environmental attributes has been carried out by the project proponent.

No credible action has been taken by the State Government/ SPCB against the project proponent.

The economic values have not been calculated in the damage assessment report. Also, the details of cost saved by not prepared EIA report not calculated. Environmental compensation calculated by the project proponent is not correct

### 29.2.4 The EAC during deliberations observed that project proponent has not prepared the ecological damage assessment report correctly and the same need to be revised. Also, the Community Resource

augmentation plan needs revision as per the points raised by General public during public hearing. Accordingly, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of following additional information:

- (i) Revised Damage Assessment Report.
- (ii) Revised Community Resource augmentation plan.
- (iii) Activity wise breakup with time bound budgetary provisions on the issues raised during public hearing and revise CER plan accordingly
- (iv) Plan to identify the traditional knowledge with the Tribal community and to strengthen the Self help group.
- (v) Land use/Land Cover analysis shall include the entire project area.
- (vi) The Hydro geology report shall be revisited and the annual precipitation over the project area shall be reassessed and submitted including the Rain Water /Ground Water charging potential with relevant ROC (Run of coefficient).
- (vii) Water consumption for the plant as well as domestic needs considering the standard per capita consumption shall be revised and submitted.
- (viii) Damage Assessment:(Specific T O R):
  - a) Status of Credible action initiated by TSPCB shall be submitted.
  - b) The PP has adopted the" CPCB IN HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT " which is not applicable to this project since it is a specific case and as quoted in CPCB Report " when environment compensation is assessed based on actual damage to environment by expert organization agency" However, the PP has to rework the damages for the following attributes for operation without EC:
  - c) Air pollution Damage either by calculating by either rates per kg of emission as per EU28 Hand Book or rates per kg as per EEA report being followed as per violation committee guidelines.
  - d) Damage cost towards non maintenance of Rainwater Harvesting Structures and Ground Water Recharging system.
  - e) Cost towards consumption of Ground/Surface water without clearance and computed as per CGWA notification dated 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020.
  - f) Damage cost towards absence of Solid waste management.
  - g) Non-compliance of provision of 33% GB/Plantation of the Project area.
  - h) The overall economic benefit (net profit) accrued and cost a saved in EMP if so, 3% of the total shall be added to Community Resource Augumentation plan.
  - i) Being under SOP: The penalty for Capex and the operating turnover for all these years shall be calculated @0.5 % for capex (255.51 Cr) and 0.125 % for the total turnover as per para 12.3/4 of SOP.

The EAC, therefore **deferred** the proposal.

**Agenda Item No. 29.3:**

**23 MW Municipal Solid Waste based Power Plant (Waste to Energy) at NDMC Compost Plant Site near Okhla STP, Okhla, New Delhi by M/s Timarpur Okhla Waste Management Company Pvt. Ltd. – Amendment in Environment Clearance (EC) – reg.**

**[Proposal No. IA/DL/THE/288503/2022; F. No. J-13012/09/2018-IA.I (T)]**

**29.3.1** The proposal is for amendment in environmental clearance granted by the Ministry vide letter dated 15.01.2020 in favour of M/s Timarpur Okhla Waste Management Company Pvt. Ltd. to the project for 23 MW Municipal Solidwaste based Power Plant (Waste to Energy) at NDMC Compost Plant Site near Okhla STP, Okhla, New Delhi.

**29.3.2** The details of the project submitted by project proponent and ascertained from the document submitted are mentioned below:

Application was submitted to Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change for the Waiver of EC condition No:13 (i) mentioned in the EC Letter No: J-13012/09/2008-IA-I(T), dated: 15.01.2020 which states as follows:

“Any further expansion beyond 23 MW power generation capacity shall not be permitted at same site considering the proximity of Sukhdev Vihar residential colony located at less than 100 meters from the site”.

**29.3.3** The EAC during deliberations noted the following:

The proposal has been submitted for amendment in environmental clearance granted by the Ministry vide letter dated 15.01.2020 in favour of M/s Timarpur Okhla Waste Management Company Pvt. Ltd. to the project related to generation of 23 MW electricity from Municipal Solid Waste (Waste to Energy) at NDMC Compost Plant Site near Okhla STP, Okhla, New Delhi.

Earlier the Ministry had granted amendment in EC vide letter dated 15.01.2020 to the plant for operating 23 MW by vide EC Letter No: J-13012/09/2008-IA-I(T), dated: 15.01.2020. The project proponent submitted the present application for amendment in EC for the waiver of EC condition No:13 (i) i.e. ***Any further expansion beyond 23 MW power generation capacity shall not be permitted at same site considering the proximity of Sukhdev Vihar residential colony located at less than 100 meters from the site.***

The EAC observed that no details have been submitted regarding change in environmental scenario,

baseline pollution load after the last appraisal by the EAC. It was also observed that PP is considering to expand the capacity of the existing plant and the ToR for the EIA study for the proposed expansion was issued by the MoEF&CC in 2018. However, no detail about the variations in the use of waste quantity, increase in the pollution load due to the enhancement of capacity, and required environmental infrastructure to handle and mitigate the pollution load due to proposed expansion was provided. No alternative site study has been performed to justify the present proposal. Earlier, the Ministry has restricted further expansion on the present site as the site is very close to the residential area and several complaints have been received from nearby residents regarding the emission of toxic gases and foul smells and the nearby residents are resisting the project.

**29.3.4 In view of the above,** the EAC after detailed deliberations was of the view that the proposal requires addressing the above observations of EAC in detail. The EAC, therefore, is of the view that the present proposal seeking the amendment in EC is premature and needs to be substantiated with proper details as suggested. The EAC opined that the proposal may be re-examined with EIA/EMP report of expansion proposal for the existing plant. The EAC suggested that the EIA/EMP report should contain alternative site analysis, waste segregation methodology, current as well the incremental load including emission data generated during last one year as monitored by the CPCB/PP/Municipal Corporation along with detailed justification for the expansion and corresponding environmental safeguard measures.

**The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.**

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**ATTENDANCE**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
1.	Shri Gururaj P. Kundargi	Chairman	P
2.	Dr. N. P Shukla	Member	P
3.	Shri Suramya Vora	Member	P
4.	Dr. Santosh Kumar	Member	P
5.	Dr. Umesh Jagannathrao Kahalekar	Member	P
6.	Shri K. B. Biswas	Member	P
7.	Professor S. S. Rai	Member	P
8.	Dr. Nandini N	Member	P
9.	Dr. Unmesh Patnaik	Member	P
10.	Shri M. P. Singh	Member (Representative of CEA)	P
11.	Sh. Nazimuddin	Member (Representative of CPCB)	P
12.	Shri Yogendra Pal Singh	Member Secretary	P

## **APPROVAL OF THE CHAIRMAN**

**From:** [gpkundargi@gmail.com](mailto:gpkundargi@gmail.com)

**To:** "Yogendra Pal Singh" <[yogendra78@nic.in](mailto:yogendra78@nic.in)>

**Cc:** "Saurabh Upadhyay" <[saurabh.upadhyay85@gov.in](mailto:saurabh.upadhyay85@gov.in)>, "Sourabh Kumar" <[sourabh.9@govcontractor.in](mailto:sourabh.9@govcontractor.in)>

**Sent:** Sunday, September 4, 2022 6:39:05 PM

**Subject:** Re: Draft MOM of 29th EAC (Thermal) held on 24.08.2022-reg.

Dear Dr Yogendra ji

Thank you for sending revised draft minutes after incorporating the observations form members.

Draft Minutes are hereby approved.

You may take further needful action.

Thank you

G P Kundargi

On Sun, 4 Sep, 2022, 3:09 pm Yogendra Pal Singh, <[yogendra78@nic.in](mailto:yogendra78@nic.in)> wrote:

Dear Sir,

Please find attached the draft MOM of the aforesaid EAC meeting for approval please. The comments received from Hon'ble Members have been duly incorporated.