



A CAG Initiative

stopppwatch

Volume 3, Issue 06

June 2016

Educating & Informing Stakeholders on Energy, Environment & Thermal Power Plants

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Relevant Websites & Contacts

Under Secretary,
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National Green Tribunal

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Website: <http://www.greentribunal.gov.in/>

THERMAL POWER PLANTS & AMBIENT AIR QUALITY— III

Overview of National and International Environmental Protection Agencies

India: Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB): [CPCB](#) is a statutory organization that was constituted in September 1974 under [Water \(Prevention and Control of Pollution\) Act of 1974](#). The principle functions of CPCB are prevention and abatement of water and air pollution, mass awareness creation, preparation of manuals, codes, guidelines relating to treatment and disposal of sewage and trade effluents and also for stack gas cleaning devices, stacks and ducts.

State Pollution Control Board (SPCB): Each state government has constituted a SPCB for their respective State under the same Act. Definition of the functions for each board varies, however, the key functions is to co-ordinate activities of CPCB in the particular state, inspection, awareness creation, information dissemination, sample collection and analysis.

Table 2: Emission standards for thermal power plants in India

Parameters	TPPs (units) installed before 31 st Dec 2003	TPPs (units) installed After 1 st Jan, 2003 to Dec 31 2006	TPPs (units) installed From 1 st Jan, 2017
PM mg/Nm ³	100	50	30
SO ₂ mg/Nm ³	200 (for ≥500MW)	200 (for ≥ 500 MW)	100
NO _x mg/Nm ³	600	300	100
Hg mg/Nm ³	0.03	0.03	0.03

Source: [CPCB](#)

China: Emission standards in China are formulated and implemented by Ministry of Environmental Protection. Its [function](#) is to protect China's air, water and land from pollution and contamination. The [mandates](#) of MEP varies from formulating national standards in line with the procedures set by the central government to environmental monitoring, statistics and information; develop environmental monitoring system and norms.

USA: [US Environmental Protection Agency](#) is the nodal agency for issuing standards. The mission of EPA is to protect human health and environment. Its [purpose](#) is to ensure protection from significant risks to human health and the environment where they live, learn and work; monitoring to ensure federal laws protecting human health and environment are enforced fairly and effectively.

European Union (EU): The [Directorate-General for Environment](#) is the European Commission department responsible for EU policy on the environment. It aims to protect, preserve and improve the environment for present and future generations, proposing and implementing policies that ensure a high level of environmental protection and preserve the quality of life of EU citizens. It also makes sure that Member States apply EU environmental law correctly and represents the European Union in environmental matters at international meetings.

Australia: The [Department of Energy and Environment](#) designs and implements the Australian Government's policies and programmes to protect and conserve the environment, water and heritage and promote climate action. The environmental framework is being delivered under four pillars: a) Clean air, b) Clean land, c) Clean water and d) National heritage. (to be continued)

CSIR LAB TO MONITOR QUALITY OF COAL SUPPLIED TO POWER PLANTS

The Centre has engaged a Council of Scientific & Industrial Research's (CSIR) laboratory to monitor the quality of coal before it is supplied to thermal power plants by companies. The move is expected to improve performance of power plants and reduce emission as efficient power generation will result in less pollutants at generation stage. It will also help the coal-based thermal power plants to adhere to strict emission norms.

The CSIR's laboratory - Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR), Dhanbad, Jharkhand - on Tuesday signed an MoU with the Coal India Limited, Singareni Collieries Company Limited and power utilities for quality monitoring of coals in the

presence of science & technology minister Harsh Vardhand and power minister Piyush Goyal.

Under this MoU, It is estimated that about 300 million metric tons of coal samples would be analysed for quality per year. The contract value of the project is minimum around Rs 250 crore per annum.

"A committee that has been constituted between NTPC, Coal India and other members has drawn up a complete mechanism on how coal sampling will be done, the procedure for testing the sample, reporting the findings and the necessary impact it will have on the billing, particularly at the loading end,"

Goyal said.

He said there has been a significant improvement in the quality of coal being supplied to consumers in the last two years. The power minister also gave some firm assurances on the power availability front, saying there is enough electricity for the next 10 years.

The CSIR-CIMFR provides knowledge support to entire coal-based energy chain encompassing exploration, mining, exploitation and environment. It is also engaged in exploitation of other mineral deposits and excavation for hydro-electric projects, tunnels and railways.

[TOI](#) June 28, 2016.

USD 80 billion value of electricity wasted in 2013 due to not implementing best-available technologies and solutions in network-enabled devices

- IEA

HUNDREDS OF SMALL MINES SHUT DOWN IN RAJASTHAN ON NGT

Kota: Hundreds of minor minerals mines, which failed to obtain the NGT-mandated environment clearance (EC) in Kota region, were forced to discontinue operations, leaving thousands of labourers without work.

The National Green Tribunal (NGT), via its order dated 13 January 2015 had directed the ministry of environment and forests (MoEF) to draft a policy on EC for mining leases in cluster for minor minerals, including building stones, gravel, ordinary clay and ordinary sand, among others.

Initially, the NGT had set a time limit of six months for the mines to obtain the EC and later extended it till January 2016. Thereafter, seeking another extension on the time limit, the Rajasthan government had approached the NGT, which declined the request and made it clear for the mine owners to apply for EC and obtain it latest by

31 May. In Bundi district alone, more than 900 mines remained shut, while only 23 which obtained the EC continued to function, officials said.

Orders to shut operations were issued to mine owners who have not yet obtained the EC, D.P. Goud, superintendent mining engineer, Kota told reporters. He added no further direction for resumption of operation at the mines has been received from senior officials.

The department had on Wednesday stopped issuance of departure slips to those not having EC, Sunil Sharma, mining engineer, Bundi mining department, told reporters. He said only 23 mine owners have obtained EC from the committee headed by the district collector. The closure of mining operations in Bundi district has affected business of around Rs.10 corer per day, causing loss of revenue to the government as well as traders,

Bansal said.

In Ramgangmandi area of Kota district, 47 out of 61 mines were closed down, said Yashwant Damor, mining engineer, mining department. He said owners of 44 out of the 47 closed down mines have applied for EC but they have not been issued the same till 31 May, while the three other mine owners never applied for EC.

According to people familiar with the matter, most of the mine owners applied for EC before 31 March 2016 but could not obtain the clearance as "files kept moving to and fro between the offices at state and district levels". These mine owners had earlier applied to the MoEF and the state environment department, Jaipur. Their applications were not sent to the district level committee on time, the people said.

[Livemint](#) June 03, 2016

OBAMA SIGNS BIPARTISAN CHEMICAL SAFETY BILL

The Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act is the first major update to environmental legislation in two decades, overhauling the process for regulating toxic chemicals, allowing the Environmental Protection Agency to ban substances like asbestos, and limiting the secrecy around those chemicals after 10 years. The bill passed the House 403 to 12 and the Senate by voice vote.

"I want the American people to know that even in the current politicized environment here in Washington, things can work," Obama said before signing the bill into law. "If we can make this bill work, it means that somewhere out on the horizon we can make our politics less

toxic as well." In the end, it had the support of industry groups like the American Chemical Association and S.E. Johnson, and from advocates like the March of Dimes and the Environmental Defense Fund — all of which attended the signing ceremony. "You don't get all these people in the same room without a few late nights on Capitol Hill," Obama said.

The previous law, the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976, was passed during a golden era of environmental legislation that also included the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act.

But Obama said the law proved to be ineffective, with the EPA using it to ban just five of

62,000 chemicals then on the market. The new law allows the EPA to evaluate chemicals already on the market and preempt some state laws to provide greater uniformity.

Obama also signed five other bills privately Wednesday, including a reform of Indian trusts managed by the Department of the Interior, the renaming a Veterans Affairs clinic, an authorization for federal law enforcement officers to carry firearms while laid off, a transfer of federal land in Lassen County, and a pipeline safety measure allowing the Department of Transportation to restrict hazardous pipeline facilities.

[USA TODAY](#) June 22, 2016

AGL HIKES SA ELECTRICITY PRICES 10 PC, BLAMES POWER STATION

The price of electricity for AGL customers in South Australia is set to rise by about \$200 a year from next month. The company, which is the largest electricity supplier in the state, has partly blamed the 10 per cent increase on the closure of Alinta's power stations in Port Augusta.

It said the availability of coal and gas for power generation has had an impact on its costs. But Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis rejected the explanation. He said coal prices were dropping and AGL was trying to protect its shareholders due to a decrease in demand.

Mr Koutsantonis, who admitted he was an AGL customer, urged people to shop around for another provider. "I'm with AGL and my wife and I will be making the decision about whether we stay," Mr Koutsantonis said.

"Now is the opportunity for those other companies that have a much smaller market share than AGL to really step up to the plate and take South Australian customers."

Mr Koutsantonis said the lack of interstate interconnectors, limiting the state's ability to sell power, was also a factor. The SA Government yesterday announced it would provide \$500,000 to fund a feasibility study into building a second interconnector.

Government's energy policies 'destabilise' electricity market. But the state's Opposition has blamed the Government for AGL's price hike. Opposition spokesperson Dan Van Holst Pelekaan said the State Government's renewable energy policies were to blame. "The Government has been overzealous with regard to permissions for

wind energy and unfortunately wind energy without storage destabilises the electricity market," he said.

South Australian Council of Social Services chief executive officer Ross Womersley is concerned the higher charges will worsen the burden on families already struggling to make ends meet.

He said AGL needed to be more explicit in justifying the increase, especially when a recent ruling by the Australian Energy Regulator was supposed to lead to savings. "In fact it eclipses that saving by more than anything we've managed to achieve, so this means that power prices in real times are going up for anybody on a standing contract in South Australia," Mr Womersley said.

[ABC News](#) June 15, 2016

Pollutants that are released into the air, as opposed to land and water pollutants, are the most harmful.

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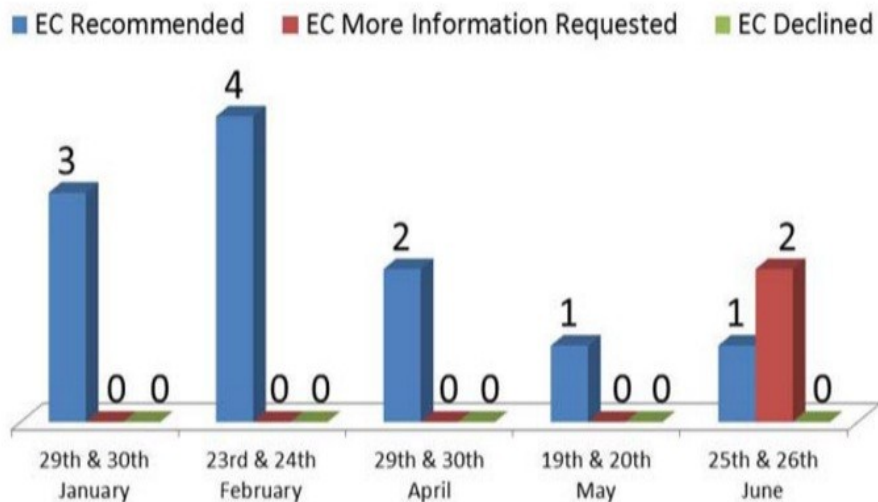
www.cag.org.in

<http://thermalwatch.org.in/>



Citizen consumer and civic Action Group (CAG) is a non-profit, non-political and professional organization that works towards protecting citizens' rights in consumer and environmental issues and promoting good governance processes including transparency, accountability and participatory decision making.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE - THERMAL POWER PROJECTS - ERC 2016



REGULATIONS AND CASES

- Draft notification for violation cases under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. [Click here](#)
- Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines 2016. [Click here](#)

PUBLICATIONS

- T. Sri Latha and Dr. B. Anjaneya Prasad, "Feasibility study of ORC implementation in Indian power plants" Anvesha's international journal of research in engineering and applied sciences, Volume 1, Issue 6, 2016 . [Click here](#)
- Chanchal Verma, Sangeeta Madan and Athar Hussain, "Heavy metal contamination of groundwater due to fly ash disposal of coal-fired thermal power plant", Cogent Engineering (2016), 3:1179243 . [Click here](#)

MISCELLANEOUS

- International Conference on Energy, Environment and Economics (ICEEE2016) August 16-18 2016, Edinburgh Conference Centre, Heriot-Watt University, Riccarton, Edinburgh, EH14 4AS. [Click here](#)
- 6th International Conference on Environmental Pollution and Remediation(ICEPR'16) August 18-19, 2016 Budapest, Hungary. [Click here](#)