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Relevant Websites & Contacts

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ANALYSIS OF ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT: CASE STUDY OF METTUR THERMAL POWER STATION – I (MTPS- I) - PART 2

3. Part - C - Pollution discharged to environment/unit of output

The Environment Protection Rules (1986) requires the thermal power plant to mention the type of pollution, its quantity and concentration and percentage variation from prescribed standards. The two different pollutants mentioned here is water for making ash dyke and flue gas.

Findings

For the water coming out of ash dyke, Total Dissolved solids (TDS) was mentioned to be around 250 – 350 ppm. This is impossible as kind of purity is available only for drinking water.

Flue Gas instrument does not measure Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM). Ambient Air quality is measured by a separate device.

The percentage variation for suspended particulate matter has not been mentioned.

Recommendation:

Intervention from the regulatory authority to inspect flue gas measuring device. They should also take steps to analyse the water coming out of the ash dyke.

4. Part – D – Hazardous waste

Norm: This part of the statement should comply with Hazardous Waste Management Rules, 2008. Therefore, the hazardous waste and amount of its generation of should be mentioned.

Findings: Only spent oil has been mentioned in these environmental statements.

Recommendation: As per the rules, the hazardous wastes that are related to thermal power plants are spent oil, residues from cleaning (cotton waste), discarded chemical container, scrap metals, ETP sludge for the thermal power plants, and are ignored in the statements.

5. Part – E - Solid waste

Norm: Types of solid waste and its qualities should be mentioned in this part.

Findings: They have mentioned only mill rejects and ash collected from pollution control facility.

Recommendation:

Additionally, these can be accounted: Plastic waste, ferrous scrap, Non-Ferrous scrap, Stationery items, discarded spare parts, wood waste; STP sludge.

6. Part – F – Mode of disposal of solid wastes and hazardous waste

Norms: The statement should specify the characteristics (in terms of concentration and quantum) of hazardous, as well as solid wastes and indicate disposal practices, adopted for both these categories of wastes.

Findings: Only disposal methods of wastes are mentioned. There is no mention of concentration and quantum of hazardous and solid waste and their suitable disposal practice.

Recommendation:

Concentration and quantum of the waste should be mentioned the environment statements.

GOVT TO SIDESTEP RULE ON CLEANER EMISSIONS - KORADI PLANT

Despite the alarming pollution around Koradi Thermal Power Station (KTPS), the state government is looking at ways to circumvent a critical environmental rule that makes it mandatory to install a pollution control unit called the flue gas desulphuriser (FGD). This unit controls emissions of sulphur dioxide, which is the cause of acid rain, corrodes buildings and structures, and affects human health.

The environmental clearance issued by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) to the project on January 4, 2010, said that Mahagenco was to install FGD for the new units no. 8, 9 and 10. An FGD unit costs Rs400 crore.

State energy minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule told TOI that a coal sampling would be done first. "We will sample coal supplied to KTPS. If high amount of sulphur is found, only then will we install the FGD," he said.

Recent data provided by KTPS revealed that sulphur dioxide

levels were five times higher than permissible limits. The plant is under the lens after the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) asked for a clarification on allegations that air quality monitoring data was fudged. The state is clearly looking at ways to avoid the additional cost which will be incurred if FGDs are to be installed. The state claims that installing FGD units will lead to increase in power tariff.

Environment expert Debi Goenka, who has done extensive research on thermal power plants, says that taking a decision on the basis of coal sampling is not the right approach. "FGD units not only reduce emissions of sulphur dioxide but also mercury and other harmful gases. If the ministry has made the unit mandatory for all thermal power plants, KTPS cannot get an exemption, especially since it is so close to human habitation," he adds. KTPS is hardly 10 kilometres from the city limits.

According to Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), which manufactures FGDs, the sulphur

content in Indian coal is between 0.25% and 0.5%. About 95% of the sulphur is converted into sulphur dioxide (SO₂).

National Thermal Power Corporation's (NTPC) power plants at Vindhyachal (MP) and Bongaigaon (Assam) had installed a FGD for one of their units. Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) allowed NTPC to recover the cost of FGD from consumers through power tariff.

About two years ago, Mahagenco, the company which runs KTPS, had floated an expression of interest (EoI) for installation of FGD for the 660MW Unit 10. However, sources said, Bawankule and some senior Mahagenco officials have now decided not to install it. In February last year, chief minister Devendra Fadnavis too had sought a waiver for FGD. He wrote a letter in this regard to environment minister Prakash Javadekar on July 8, 2015.

[The Times of India](#) May 22, 2017

The theme for 2017 World Environment day, 'Connecting People to Nature', urges us to get outdoors and into nature, to appreciate its beauty and to think about how we are part of nature and how intimately we depend on it. It challenges us to find fun and exciting ways to experience and cherish this vital relationship. The host nation for 2017 is 'Canada'

ENNORE RESIDENTS OPPOSE POWER PLANT

Angry residents expressed their opposition to the proposed construction of the 660-MW supercritical thermal power plant in Ennore replacing the old plants, at a public hearing held on Tuesday, organised by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB). Tiruvallur Collector E. Sundaravalli chaired the meeting along with officials of the TNPCB and the Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (Tangedco). The participants, mostly fishermen, highlighted the main problem, loss of livelihood due to thermal power stations dumping fly ash in the Ennore creek causing reduction in fish population.

A. Lakshminpathy, a resident of Nettukuppam, said his family has been living in the coastal village

for more than three generations and is finding it uninhabitable because of air, water and noise pollution. The fish population had drastically reduced as the creek, the breeding ground for the fish population, has been damaged by the dumping of fly ash. "This has resulted in competition among the fishermen to fight for their daily livelihood," he said.

While the residents complained about it affected their livelihood and environment problems, activists were highly critical of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report prepared for the thermal plant. Activist Nityanand Jayaraman charged that the EIA report did not comply with coastal regulation zone (CRZ) notifications. There was a "mismatch" of air pollution data

in the report and the data recorded by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). No marine and socio economic studies had been carried out, he said. "The construction of a new plant will increase the pollution load in the already fragile coastal belt," he said, urging the government to blacklist the agency that prepared the EIA report.

S. Janakarajan, retired professor of Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS), wondered how environment clearance could be obtained for such a polluting industry located in CRZ I, while one could not get clearance for even constructing a house.

[The Hindu](#) May 31, 2017

NEW COALMINES WILL WORSEN POVERTY AND ESCALATE CLIMATE CHANGE, REPORT FINDS

New coalmines will leave more people in poverty, Oxfam has said in a new report, calling on Australia to commit to no new coalmines and to end public subsidies for coalmining.

The report comes as the Queensland and federal governments continue to push for the controversial Adani coalmine in the Galilee basin, signalling potential infrastructure support and “royalty holidays”.

The government’s support for the mine, which would be the biggest in Australia, has been met with a fierce campaign of resistance from environmental, legal, social justice and human rights groups.

The Oxfam report, *More Coal Equals More Poverty*, says the climate change impacts of coal-fired power will disproportionately affect the world’s poor and – with most of the energy-poor households in developing countries beyond the reach of electricity grids – new coal-fired power plants won’t bring them energy.

“Renewables are the clear answer to bringing electricity to those who currently live without it,” the report says. “The real cost of burning more coal will be measured in further entrenched poverty – through the escalating impacts of climate change and humanitarian disasters, increasing hunger and deaths and disease caused by pollution.”

The Oxfam report cites the example of the two most populous nations on earth – with emerging middle classes in the hundreds of millions – China and India, which have recently suspended or abandoned plans to build new coal-fired power plants in favour of renewable energy.

China has suspended more than 100 planned or partly-constructed coal-fired plants and has earmarked more than \$493m for renewables projects over the next three years. India’s draft 10-year energy blueprint, released in December, pre-

dicts 57% of the country’s total electricity capacity will come from non-fossil fuel sources by 2027, far above the Paris climate accord target of 40% by 2030. India and China also have nuclear power.

The Oxfam report calls on the Australian government to prohibit new coalmines in the country and to end public subsidies for coalmining.

It identified, in particular, the Indian conglomerate Adani’s proposed Carmichael coalmine in the Galilee basin, which would be the largest coalmine in Australia’s history.

The state and federal governments are supportive of the mine. The federal resources minister, Matt Canavan, has consistently said the mine is “great news for regional Queensland and will boost the Queensland and Australian economies”.

The federal government’s Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility is considering funding Adani’s coal rail line to the coast, while the Queensland government has reportedly offered Adani a “royalties holiday” worth more than \$300m from state coffers.

But the mine faces a financing impasse. Globally 19 banks, most recently Westpac, have either specifically or by way of stated policy committed to not funding the Adani project.

Subsidising coal-fired power plants is “clinging to the technologies of the past”, the Oxfam report says.

“Australia’s current stance is fundamentally at odds with the global shift to renewable energy and ignores our responsibility to help protect communities from the ravages of climate change, the opportunities for new jobs and prosperity through renewable energy, and the global goals of achieving universal energy access and ending poverty.”

Oxfam Australia’s chief executive, Helen Szoke, said the development of renewables in Australia had been hampered by shifting government agenda and a lack of policy certainty over several years.

“Against the backdrop of an imperilled Great Barrier Reef and extreme weather disasters, Australia’s carbon pollution is continuing to climb – the tragic consequence of more than a decade of climate policy paralysis and short-term political opportunism,” she said.

“Renewable energy is set to power the fair economies of the future and Australia can make a choice to be part of that. Through its 2017 review of climate change policies, the Australian government has the opportunity to set a credible long-term goal and plan of action.”

The next round of global climate talks will be held in Bonn in November. But the meeting, COP 23, is being chaired by Fiji, which has said it will bring the concerns of developing and vulnerable Pacific states to the fore of negotiations.

The Pacific – which, as a region, has the lowest per capita emissions in the world – has felt the impacts of climate first and most acutely. Pacific states, many of which are low-lying archipelagos, have experienced cyclones and storm surges of increased frequency and power and are losing arable land and, in some cases, whole islands to rising sea levels.

[The Guardian](#) May 21, 2017

Flue-gas desulfurization (FGD) is a control device used to remove sulfur dioxide (SO_x) from exhaust flue gases using an alkaline reagent to produce a solid compound. In this chemical reaction 90% of the sulfur dioxide from the flue gas can be removed and converts the limestone into calcium sulphite. New SO_x Emission Norms for TPPs installed after 1.1.2017 is 100 Mg/Nm³.

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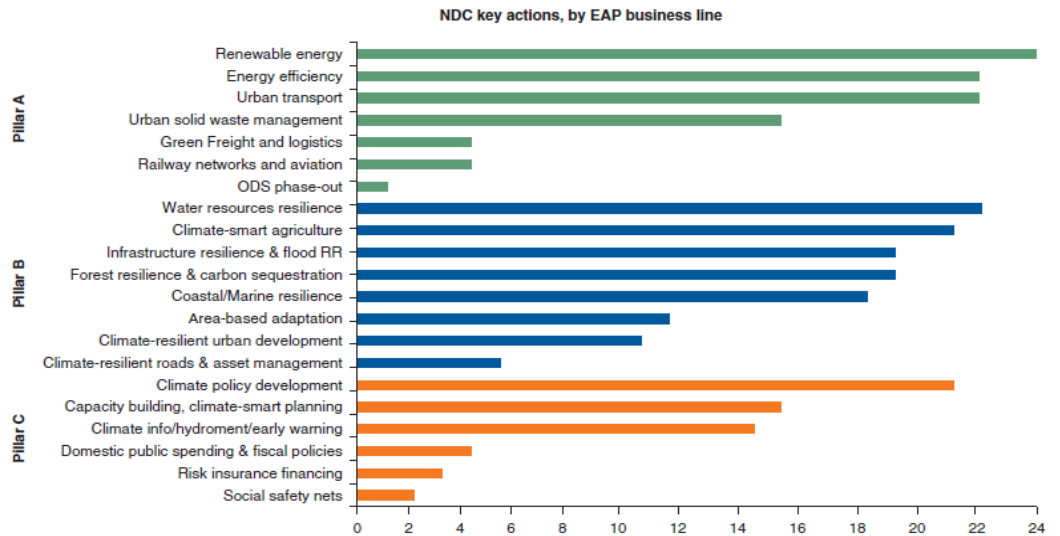
<http://thermalwatch.org.in/>



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.

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN 2016-2020, WORLD BANK ANALYSIS

FIGURE A.5 EAP Region Climate Change Engagement Well-Aligned with NDCs



Note: EAP = East Asia and Pacific region; NDC = nationally determined contribution; ODS = Ozone Depleting Substances; RR = risk reduction.

REGULATIONS AND CASES

- Rajeev Rai Vs Union of India; UPPCB; Punjabi Club [2017], Noise pollution caused by a club in Uttar Pradesh, Original Application No. 42/2016, 26th May 2017, [Click here](#)
- MPCB Vs Union of India; CPCB; The Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation; Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) of Industries are found to be not performing up to the standards in Dombivli Phase-I & II ; Original Application No. 3/2017(WZ), 1st May 2017, [Click here](#)

PUBLICATIONS

- Oxfam Australia, More coal equals more poverty: Transforming our world through renewable energy [Online], May 2017, [Accessed 05 May 2017]. [Click here](#)
- Centre for science and Environment; Ministry of Urban development, Mainstreaming energy efficiency in urban water and wastewater management in the wake of climate change [Online], 2017, [Accessed 06 may 2017]. [Click here](#)

MISCELLANEOUS

- Free online course on "Introduction to Environmental Governance" by UN Environment and UNITAR. Registrations are open! [Click here](#)
- Video on "The Green Climate fund (GCF) and the Implementation of the Paris Agreement", [Click here](#)