MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

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Date: 12/07/2022

CIRCULAR

Sub:Provision of penal fess for occupiers violating combine consent regime prescribed under Air/Water Act – reg.

Ref: Minutes of 178th Board Meeting held on 24/02/2022.

It is mandatory on the part of industries/entrepreneurs to obtain Consent to Establish and Operate under section 25/26 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution Act) 1974, under section 21 of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1981 and Authorization under Hazardous & Other Waste (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rule 2016. However, it has been noticed that, often industries were found to be violating the aforesaid provisions and the violations noticed are as below:

- 1. To take effective steps towards establishment of project/unit without obtaining Consent to Establish from the Board
- 2. To take effective steps without revalidating Consent to Establish from the Board.
- 3. To start Commercial production/to hand over occupancy without obtaining Consent to Operate from the Board
- 4. To carry out expansion activity and applying directly for Consent to Operate without obtaining Consent to Establish of the Board.
- To operate the activity without valid consent to operate of the Board and applying after lapse of validity period.
- 6. To store and disposal of Hazardous Waste not consistent with provisions of rules

The MPC Board has published Enforcement Policy for issuance of directions on account of degree of violation by imposing/forfeiting proportionate Bank Guarantee. The matter of such violations was discussed during Consent Appraisal Committee/Consent Committee and was decided to formulate the deterrent policy towards above mentioned violations and such other violations. Hence, it is important to discourage the defaulting industries by adopting "Polluter Pays" principal by imposing appropriate cost for violation of provisions of Environment enactments.

The MPC Board in its 178th Board meeting held on 24/02/2022 vide item No. 12 has considered to impose appropriate penal fees towards violation of Environmental enactments, the penal fees shall be imposed as below:

Sr. No.	Violation	Cost of Violation
01	Taking effective steps towards establishment of project/unit prior to obtain Consent to Establish from the Board	Red Category: 5 times of one term consent fee X no. of years of violation* Orange Category: 3 times of one term consent fee X no. of years of violation* Green Category: 1 time of one term consent fee X no. of years of violation*
02	Taking effective steps without revalidating Consent to Establish of the Board.	
03	Industry: Starting Commercial production prior to obtain Consent to Operate of the Board. Infrastructure Project: Handing over possession prior to obtaining Consent to Operate of the Board and Occupancy certificate from Local Body.	
04	Operating the inclustry/activity without valid consent to operate of the Board and applying after lapse of validity period.	

^{*} Calculations of number of years shall be calculated on the basis of number of days of non-compliance.

The penal fees amount to be paid by PP through online e-payment gateway.

All the Officers of the Board should implement this circular scrupulously without fail.

(Ashok Shingare, IAS)
Member Secretary

Copy submitted to: The Hon'ble Chairman, MPC Board Mumbai- for favour of information

Copy to:

- The Assistant Secretary (Tech)/Joint Director (APC)/Joint Director (WPC)/Principal Scientific Officer/Regional Officer (HQ) MPC Board Mumbai
- 2. Law Officer/Statical Officer, MPC Board Mumbai

Copy to:

- 1. All Regional Officer, MPC Board
- 2. All Sub-Regional Officer, MPC Board
- 3. EIC- He is directed to place the circular on Board's website.