COMMISSION FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION AND ADJOINING AREAS 17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan (STC Building) Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-110001

F. No. A-110018/01/2021-CAQM - 1854-1876

Dated: 07.12.2021

Subject: Directions under Section 12 of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021 for effective control of air pollution in Delhi-NCR.

WHEREAS, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 3 of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act 2021 (hereinafter referred to as 'Act'), has constituted the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas (hereinafter referred to as the 'Commission');

WHEREAS, under Section 12 (1) of the Act, the Commission has powers to take all such measures, issue directions, etc., as it deems necessary or expedient for the purpose of protecting and improving the quality of the air in the National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas;

WHEREAS, in terms of Section 12 (2) (v) of the Act, stipulates restrictions of areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations or processes, that have implications on air quality in the region, shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards;

WHEREAS, Section 12 (2) (xi) of the Act, empowers the Commission to issue directions in writing to any person, officer, or any authority and such person, officer or authority shall be bound to comply with such directions;

WHEREAS, the Commission has been highlighting that amongst others, Industrial Pollution is one of the major contributing factors for deterioration of air quality in the region;

WHEREAS, the Commission has repeatedly taken up the matter relating to air pollution in NCR with the State Governments of Haryana, Rajasthan, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Government of NCT of Delhi and various organizations concerned of the Central and State Governments/ GNCTD and has issued various Directions, Orders and has also taken specific decisions for effective implementation of measures for abating air pollution in NCR region from time to time;

WHEREAS, in terms of Direction No. 29 – 31 dated 12.08.2021, the Commission had issued comprehensive policy Directions for Shifting of industries operating in NCR Districts to PNG / cleaner fuels which *inter-alia* included the following:

- (i) To audit and inspect the industries, which are already connected to PNG supply and ensure that those industries are not using any other polluting fuels like coal etc.
- (ii) To maintain strict vigil to prevent the use of unapproved fuels in the NCR, through the enforcement agencies concerned and take stringent action, in case of the defaulting units.
- (iii) To prepare an implementable Action Plan by clearly specifying definite time lines for switching over of all identified industries units to PNG, where infrastructure and supply of gas are already available.
- (iv) To develop a time bound comprehensive action plan, in consultation with the authorized entities to supply gas in the industrial areas falling within the specified Geographical areas of NCR districts, for ensuring PNG and infrastructure supply in the remaining industrial areas.

WHEREAS, the Commission, in exercise of its powers conferred upon it under Section 12 (2) (xi) of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act 2021 had issued Direction No. 44 dated 16.11.2021 for emergent action in various sectors viz. Industrial Pollution, Thermal Power Plants, Vehicular Pollution, Dust Control etc. followed up with Directions No. 46 dated 02.12.2021.

WHEREAS, in terms of para 1 (iii) of Direction No. 44, dated 16.11.2021, it was *inter alia* directed that industries in such industrial areas / clusters where PNG infrastructure and supply is available, shall immediately be shifted to PNG/ cleaners fuels and industry wise date of shifting shall be provided to the Commission;

WHEREAS, despite orders and follow up the plan of action and timeline for such switch over has still not been provided by the agencies concerned in the State Governments of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan;

WHEREAS, despite measures in different sectors towards improvement, the air quality in the region still remains in 'Very Poor' to 'Severe' category and hence, there is an emergent need to take further preventive measures, as a matter of extreme emergency and abundant caution to prevent further deterioration of air quality;

NOW, THEREFORE, in view of the facts stated above and the compelling need to prevent further deterioration of air quality in NCR, the Commission, in exercise of its powers conferred upon it under Section 12 (2) (xi) read with Section 12 (2) (v) of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act 2021, further directs the following for strict implementation with immediate effect, until 12.12.2021, subject to further review:

"All such industries located in industrial areas / clusters where PNG infrastructure and supply is available and have still not switched over to PNG/ cleaner fuels shall be closed immediately and not

permitted to schedule their operations till 12.12.2021, subject to further review".

Strict enforcement of these Directions as also the Directions / Orders issued by the Commission from time to time since its inception shall be ensured by the respective agencies and implementation/ compliance of the same shall be monitored by the Chief Secretaries of the respective States in the NCR.

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To:

- 1. The Member-Secretary, State Pollution Control Board Haryana
- 2. The Member-Secretary, State Pollution Control Board Uttar Pradesh
- 3. The Member-Secretary, State Pollution Control Board Rajasthan
- 4. ACS/ Pr. Secretary/ Secretary, Industries Department, Govt. of Haryana
- 5. ACS/ Pr. Secretary/ Secretary, Industries Department, Govt. of UP
- 6. ACS/ Pr. Secretary/ Secretary, Industries Department, Govt. of Rajasthan

For ensuring compliance and reporting to the Commission

Copy to:

- 1. The Chief Secretary, Government of Haryana
- 2. The Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh
- 3. The Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan

Copy also to:

The Chairperson and all Members, CAQM.