



4000 MW Cheyyur TPP directed to prepare fresh EIA along with PH

Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for Thermal Power Plants (TPP) of MoEF&CC considered 10 proposals on 23 January, 2019. Mostly the proposals (6) considered are for amendment in EC while 2 projects were for temporary permission for road transportation of coal and one each for amendment in ToR and reconsideration of EC.

Two important proposals discussed and deferred are Godda Thermal Power Plant in Jharkhand and Cheyyur Ultra Mega power Project (UMPP) in Tamil Nadu.

- a. **1600MW imported coal based Godda Thermal Power project by Adani Power** is for EC amendment for change in water source from the Chir river to the Ganga river. The Committee noted that the Water Sustainability Report has not been uploaded along with online application. Further, for laying of 98 km pipeline from intake point to the plant would require 464.056 acres for acquiring Right of Use out of which 36.821 acres is forest land. The details regarding submission of Forest Diversion Proposal or grant of Stage-I Forest Clearance are also not available. Also, the form-1 mentions that there is no involvement of forest land which needs reassessment. Therefore, 'the project is deferred for submission of information on (i) Revised Form-1 mentioning the details of forest land, (ii) Forest Diversion Permission (Stage-I FC) for 36.821 acres of forest land to be part of pipeline, (iii) Details and number of trees to be cut in the forest land and non-forest land enroute pipeline and (iv) Details of land requirement for all facilities and the map showing the revised coordinates of these facilities which include ash pond area, water reservoirs and intake & pump stations.'
- b. **4000 MW Imported coal based Cheyyur Ultra Mega Power Project (UMPP) by Coastal Tamil Nadu Power Ltd.** has been considered for amendment in EC for change of fuel, from imported coal to domestic coal. This has also been deferred by EAC. To quote "*Committee returned their application and requested Project Proponent to carry out the process of obtaining Environmental Clearance denovo.*"¹

¹ <http://environmentclearance.nic.in/writereaddata/Form-1A/Minutes/08022019ZO8HC3JZFinal24thEACminutes.pdf>

It was noted that the project is still in the process of acquiring the land. The requirement was originally 416.45 ha (1058 acres) and later has been increased to 2007 acres which is nearly the double the requirement as approved in the EC. Moreover, the physical construction activities have not started yet and more than five years have passed. Further, the coal quality parameters have changed now to domestic coal so the environmental impacts from domestic coal will also change significantly. Furthermore, the project configuration, layout and other technical parameters will also be revised and in the last five years, the baseline status in the area may have changed and new industries may have come up.

The present EC is valid till September, 2020 (Seven years). It may not be possible to complete the construction within the validity period, even if it is extended for further period of three years, hence the committee is of the opinion that a fresh EIA and Public Hearing may be required.

Another interesting projects discussed is EC amendment for **construction of temporary diversion bund for fly ash disposal in 2X800 MW Sri Damodaran Sanjeevaiah TPP at Nellore, Andhara Pradesh by APPDC** wherein the present ash pond is undergoing modification for raising dyke height. As there is no provision of granting temporary ash pond, the committee has **recommended** for carving out 30 acres of ash pond by creating a diversion bund in 149 acres area as an exigency and may use for dumping of fly ash till the height of existing ash pond is increased from 5 m to 10 m, after obtaining NOC from APPCB and subject to additional conditions.

The other projects discussed are:

Project	Location	For	Decision	Comments
2X660 MW Khargone Super Critical TPP by NTPC Ltd.	Khargone, Madhya Pradesh	EC amendment for road transportation	Deferred	EAC needs additional information on following points to consider: details the construction activities, reasons for delay in setting up railway line and siding, detailed report of the activities completed and balance activities along with timelines, reasons for proposing to transport only 2000 TPD whereas the coal requirement for Unit-1 is about 9800 TPD, capacity and load bearing strength of the road to take up 20 ton truck in addition to the tare weigh of 10-15 tons etc.
1X600 Coal based TPP by Jhabua Power	Seoni, Madhya Pradesh	EC amendment for	Recommended till 14.02.2020	Subject to additions conditions, such as single lane road shall be widened at the cost of Project Authorities Road and a

Ltd.		temporary permission for road transportation of coal		quarterly progress report till completion of works shall be to the Ministry and its RO. Also quarterly progress report of completion of balance activities for railway line to be submitted to the Ministry and its RO.
2X660 MW of Malwa TPP by M.P. Power Generating Co. Ltd.	Khandwa Madhya Pradesh	EC amendment for re-appropriated the allocation of coal and name change	Recommended	Committee recommended deleting the condition regarding specifying the quantities of coal from NCL, WCL & SECL mines and recommended to change the name of the project from Malwa to Shree Singaji Thermal Power Project.
1X500 MW Vindhyaachal STPP (Stage-V) by NTPC Ltd.	Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh	EC amendment for change in coal source	Recommended	Committee recommended for amendment in EC for change in coal source from Pakri Barwadih to NCL mines.
2X600 MW and 3X660 MW coal based TPP by IL&FS Tamil Nadu Power Company Ltd.	Cuddalore Tamil Nadu	EC amendment for use of indigenous coal upto 25% along with imported coal.	Deferred	Project proponent did not attend the meeting
4000 MW Ultra Mega Power Project (UMPP) by M/s Bihar Mega Power Limited	Banka, Bihar	Amendment in ToR	Returned	The committee found no justification to waive of conditions asking for setting up a washery at captive coal mine and exploring possibility of using existing railway circuit for transportation at present and hence returned the proposal in original form.
Expansion of co-gen power plant from 6 MW to 18 MW at a Starch plant by M/s. Roquette Riddhi Siddhi Pvt. Ltd.	Belagavi, Karnataka	Reconsideration of EC	Deferred	Committee noted that permission for water withdrawal is yet be secured from the Water Resources Department and impacts of power plant emissions on the wildlife in the Ghataprabha Wildlife Sanctuary are to be made available. Also the SPCB's inspection report mentioned that the wastewater lagoons are not lined and sewage/domestic wastewater is being treated in Septic Tank. The committed deferred the project for want of following information, (i) Permission to draw water from the Ghataprabha River for the power plant, (ii) Impact on Ghataprabha Bird Sanctuary due to water withdrawal from

				the river, location of intake pipeline and emissions from the power plant. Specific comments from Chief Wildlife Warden are to be obtained, (iii) Time bound action plan to set up STP and action plan for lining of Wastewater lagoons as per the SPCB inspection report.
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Review by

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