

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH

AT CHENNAI

OA No.314 of 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

NEWS ITEM TITLED "RESIDENTS STAGE PROTEST AGAINST POLLUTION CAUSED BY VIJAYAWADA THERMAL POWER STATION" APPEARING IN THE HINDU DATED.04.11.2024.

..... Applicant

Vs

ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD AND OTHERS

.... Respondents

**REPORT FILED BY THE APPCB 1<sup>st</sup> RESPONDENT**

DATE- 28.08.2025



**M/s MADHURI DONTI REDDY  
ADVOCATE**

**STANDING COUNSEL FOR GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH**

**A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

#26, S2, Royal Castle, 26, Gill Nagar Extension, Choolaimedu, Chennai – 600 094.

Mobile: 98407 98460 / 63831 21322,

Email: [reddymadhuri09@gmail.com](mailto:reddymadhuri09@gmail.com)

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No.314 of 2024(SZ)  
[Earlier O.A. No. 1302 of 2024(PB)]

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO  
MOTU based on the News Item  
in The Hindu dt: 04.11.2024  
titled, "Residents stage protest  
against pollution caused by  
Vijayawada Thermal Power  
Station".

And

Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB),  
Through its Member Secretary,  
Andhra Pradesh and ors.

...Respondent(s)

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Dt.28.08.2025  
Place: Vijayawada.

  
Environmental Engineer,  
APPCB, Regional Office,  
Vijayawada.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER  
A.P. Pollution Control Board  
Regional Office, Vijayawada

**Status report of the A.P. Pollution Control Board (APPCB) in compliance with the Hon'ble N.G.T, Chennai Order dated.13.06.2025 in O.A. No.314 of 2024(SZ) (Earlier O.A. No.1302 of 2024 (PB)) Tribunal on its own Motion SUO MOTU based on the news item in The Hindu newspaper dated.04.11.2024 titled "Residents stage protest against pollution caused by Vijayawada Thermal Power Station".**

It is humbly submit that M/s. Dr. Narla Tatarao Thermal Power Station is a Thermal Power Plant operating at Ibrahimpatnam (V&M), NTR District with Electricity production capacity of 2560 MW.

The industry was increased its production capacity in phased manner from Unit-I to Unit-VIII from the year, 1979 onwards.

It is to submit that a case was filed before the Hon'ble N.G.T (PB), New Delhi on its own motion SUO MOTU based on the news item published in The Hindu newspaper dated.04.11.2024, under the caption "Residents stage protest against pollution caused by Vijayawada Thermal Power Station", vide O.A. No.1302 of 2024 (PB).

The case was listed on 19.11.2024 before the Hon'ble N.G.T (PB), Delhi and O.A. was transferred to the Southern Zonal Bench as the matter relates to the Southern Zonal Bench.

The case renumbered as O.A. No.314 of 2024 at the Hon'ble N.G.T (SZ). The Member Secretary, A.P. Pollution Control Board is one of the Respondent in the above O.A. No.314 of 2024 (SZ).

The pollution caused by the industry was reviewed by the A.P. Pollution Control Board and issued certain directions to the industry on 10.01.2025 to submit detailed Plan of Action (PoA) with budgetary estimations to rectify the violations. Copy enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

M/s. Dr. Narla Tatarao Thermal Power Station has submitted its action plan for control of the pollution vide letter dated.27.01.2025. The industry is in the process of rectification of the pollution control systems with an allocated budget of about Rs.59.0 Crores.

The Board has submitted status report on 10.01.2025, 19.02.2025 & 10.06.2025 to the Hon'ble N.G.T (SZ) in connection with the O.A. No.314 of 2024.

The case was listed on 13.06.2025 and the Hon'ble N.G.T has issued the following order:

1. "The reply affidavit dated 04.03.2025 filed by Respondent No.2 and the reply dated 11.06.2025 filed by Respondent No.5 are taken on record.
2. However, Respondents No.3 and 4 have not yet filed their respective replies/reports. Likewise, the further action taken report from the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB) is also awaited.
3. Post the matter on 29.08.2025."

The APGENCO management had sanctioned an amount of Rs.119.0 Crores under EP & FF budget to M/s. Dr. Narla Tatarao Thermal Power Station for improvement of ash handling systems from December,2023 to February,2025. The works are under progress.

The pollution control measures implemented by the industry was reviewed in the Monitoring (Task Force) Committee meeting held on 12.08.2025 in connection with the O.A. No.314 of 2024 (SZ). The industry has submitted the status of pollution control measures implementing at the industry premises such as improving the ESP performance, construction of ETP and ash handling system etc., The details of the completion of the following works are submitted below:

1. Renovation of ash handling system in Unit-V & VI will be completed by 31.03.2026.
2. Construction of coal stock yard shed for control of fugitive emissions will be completed by 30.06.2026.
3. Sedimentation tanks to the Unit-VIII will be completed by October,2025.
4. The CAAQM station provided at B Colony will be restart its work by 31.10.2025.

The industry letter dated. 22.08.2025 pertaining to the status of the implementation of the pollution control measures is herewith submitted. Copy enclosed as **Annexure-II**.

The Board is closely monitoring the industry and reviewing the status of compliance of the directions issued by the Board regularly.

This report is submitted for kind consideration. The APPCB will abide by all such directions as the Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and appropriate.

Dt.28.08.2025  
Place: Vijayawada.

  
Environmental Engineer,  
APPCB, Regional Office,  
Vijayawada.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER  
A.P. Pollution Control Board  
Regional Office, Vijayawada

## ANNEXURE - I



**ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**  
 Paryavaran Bhavan, APIIC Colony Road,  
 Gurunanak Colony, Autonagar, Vijayawada- 520007  
 Phone. No.0866-2463200, Website : <https://pcb.ap.gov.in/>



**Lr. No.31/APPCB/HO/ECS/VJA/2019-**

**Date:10-01-2025.**

**DIRECTIONS**

**Sub.:**APPCB - HO - ECS - M/s. Dr. Narla Tatarao - Thermal Power Station, Ibrahimpatnam (V&M), NTR District - Non- compliance to Consent conditions and standards - Public complaints on Air & water pollution from the TPP - Monitoring (TF) Committee Meeting held on 25.11.2024 – Minutes of the Monitoring Committee - Communicated – Reg.

**Ref.:** 1. CTO order no: APPCB/VJA/VJA/24/CFO/HO/2016, Dt.24.04.2023.  
 2. CTO no: APPCB-11022/66/2022-TEC-CFO-APPCB, Dt.28.04.2023.  
 3. Order No.31/APPCB/HO/ECS/VJA/2024 Dt.02.02.2024.  
 4. Lr.No.MD/CE/C/Hydel,GS,C&I/SE/Hy- 1/ EE/ Env. Dn/ D.No.92 /2024, Dt.20.02.2024  
 5.Lr. No. CE/ O&M /SE /C /Env/EE /C/ Env /Dr.NTTPS /F6 /D.No.236/ 23, Dt.16.03.2024  
 6. Notice No.K-24/PCB/RO-VJA/2024-256, date.01.07.2024  
 7. Inspection of your industry by the Board officials on 13.06.2024, 04.07.2024 and 05.11.2024.  
 8. Monitoring (Task Force) Committee meeting held on 25.11.2024.

\*\*\*

**WHEREAS** you are operating Coal based Thermal power plant in the name of Dr. Narla Tatarao Thermal Power Station (NTTPS), (Formerly M/s. Vijayawada Thermal Power Station) located at Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada, Krishna District and engaged in generation of electricity.

**WHEREAS** the Board vide ref. 1<sup>st</sup> cited issued renewal of CTO& HWA to the industry on 24.04.2023 for Electric power generation of -1760 MW (6 x 210 MW (Stage-I, II & III) + 1 x 500 MW (Stage-IV)), valid upto 31.12.2027.

**WHEREAS** the Board vide ref. 2<sup>nd</sup> cited issued renewal of CTO&HWA to the industry (Stage – V) on 28.04.2023 for Electric power generation of - 800 MW, valid up to 30.04.2026.

**WHEREAS** earlier, the Board received complaints pollution problems caused from the industry and adverse news items appeared in various newspapers. The issue was reviewed in the Monitoring (Task Force) committee meeting held on 25.01.2024 and the Board issued specific directions to the industry on 02.02.2024 vide ref. 3<sup>rd</sup> cited.

**WHEREAS** a complaints received from Sri EAS Sarma, Former Energy Secretary to Gol, Sri Ch. Venugopal Rao and from the Member of NTTPS, Kalushya Niyantrana Praja Porata Samithi against the air and water pollution being caused from M/s. Dr. Narla Tatarao Thermal Power Station and to take necessary action. Complaints were also

received on pollution caused by the industry from Sri Md. Masud Ali, Advocate through A.P. Legal Services Authority and EFS&T Department.

**WHEREAS** further, the Board also received the complaints from the Guntupalli Villagers and The Krishna Co-Op. Irrigation & Agricultural Improvement Society on air pollution being caused by your industry and discharge of the ash bearing waste water into the agricultural canals and accumulation of the ash in the agricultural fields.

**WHEREAS** the Regional Office, Vijayawada received a complaint filed by Sri Chinta Ramesh Babu, D.No.7-98, Guntupalli(V), Ibrahimpatnam (M), NTR District through Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) on 01.07.2024 regarding discharges of ash bearing waste water into the agricultural canals, not developing greenbelt in an extent of 65 Acres and crop damage due to accumulation of the ash in the agricultural fields. The Board officials inspected your industry and surroundings on 13.06.2024 & 04.07.2024 and reported the following observations -

1. Damages were observed to ESPs of the unit 5 & 6 and thick smoke emissions were observed from the stacks.
2. The fly ash is disposing from the bottom hoppers of the ESPs of the unit-5 & 6.
3. Leakage of the fly ash was observed from the ESP of unit-7 (500 MW). The ash is being stored openly at ESP bottom collection area and the same is lifting into trucks by JCB. Fugitive emissions were observed at fly ash handling at Unit-7.
4. The above fly ash is loading into trucks through JCBs instead of using pneumatic system.
5. There is no fly ash and bottom ash conveying system to the Unit-8 (800 MW) and the ash storing openly at the bottom of the ESP. Huge fugitive emissions were observed at ash handling area.
6. The industry has not improved the performance of the ESPs attached to the Unit-I to Unit-VI and thick smoke emissions are observed.
7. The online stack monitoring system provided to boiler-1,2,3 & 6 are not showing the SPM values.
8. The industry is disposing the Once Through Cooling water to Budameru channel and not operating the cooling towers of Unit-1-6.
9. The public drains near the ash pond area and along with the National highway are deposited /filled with boiler ash of the industry.
10. The ash sludge from the ash pond was observed on the road leading to ash pond to National Highway due to spillages from the ash carrying trucks and thereby causing fugitive emissions to the surrounding area.
11. Open storage of crushed coal was observed without providing any fugitive dust containing measures such as covering the surface of coal stockpiles with tarpaulin sheets.
12. The industry provided sedimentation tanks to the Unit-1 to 6 and the over flow is

- joining into Budameru channel. Ash accumulation was observed in the Budameru drain at the discharge point.
13. The industry provided sedimentation tanks to the Unit-7 and the over flow water discharging outside the industry premises.
  14. The industry not provided sedimentation tanks to the Unit-8 and the floor washings mixed with ash is discharging into agricultural canals.
  15. Coal dust emissions observed at coal stocking yard and transit points and at nearby residential area around the coal stockyard.
  16. The industry is discharging ash contaminated water from the Southern side of the industry to the agricultural canals and the water joining in to agricultural fields.
  17. Ash accumulation was observed in the agricultural canal and in some of the agricultural lands.
  18. Ash dust spillages were observed along the National Highway from Jupudi area to Guntupalli and are causing fugitive emissions to the road travelers.
  19. Ambient Air Quality Monitoring (AAQM) and Stack monitoring to the boilers were conducted on 22.02.2024 and the monitored values are exceeding the Board stipulated standards as follows –

**Stack Monitoring:**

Sl. No.	Sampling point	Parameter	Result (mg/Nm <sup>3</sup> )	Standard (mg/Nm <sup>3</sup> )
1.	Stack attached to 690 TPH Coal Fired Boiler - Stage – II (210 MW) of Unit – IV	SPM	4012.0	100.0
2.	Stack attached to 690 TPH Coal Fired Boiler - Stage – III (210 MW) of Unit – V	SPM	5614.0	100.0
3	Stack attached to 690 TPH Coal Fired Boiler - Stage – III (210 MW) of Unit – VI	SPM	3420.0	100.0

**AAQM Monitoring:**

S.No.	Sampling point	Parameter	Result (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Standard (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
1	Accounts of the NTTPS, Ibrahimpatanam	PM <sub>10</sub>	261	100.0
2	Railway Hospital Rayanapadu	PM <sub>10</sub>	173	100.0
3	Hilltop Guesthouse of Dr. NTTPS	PM <sub>10</sub>	90.3	100.0
4	Beside YSR Health Care Center, Kondapalli	PM <sub>10</sub>	113	100.0

20. The online Particulate Matter parameter is not working for the Boiler - 1,2 & 3. The online particulate matter of Boiler - 4,5 & 6 are continuously exceeding the stipulated standards of 100 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>.
21. The online SO<sub>2</sub> values of Boiler-I, III, IV, V & VI are in between 900 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> to 1350 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>, as against the standard of 600 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>.
22. The online Particulate Matter values of the stack attached to the 500 MW Stage-IV (Unit-VII) is in between 90 to 110 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> thereby exceeding prescribed **standard of PM-50 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>. The SO<sub>2</sub> parameter recorded as 900 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> to 1180 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> as against the standard of 200 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>.**
23. The industry has not connected the Stage-V boiler online stack monitoring data to the APPCB server.
24. The Two CAAQM stations provided at B-Colony and towards railway wagon workshops are not in operation and not updating any data.
25. The plant submitted exceedance report of the online stack monitoring data from February, 2024 to till date.
26. The latest compliance status to the directions issued by the Board vide order dated.02.02.2024 is reported as follows:
  - a. The industry informed that an amount of Rs.28 Crores sanctioned to rectify and improvement of the pollution control systems and issued Purchase orders for the related equipment and systems. Further, informed that the prescribed emissions standards will be achieved soon. The industry requested the Coal supplier i.e., M/s Singareni Collieries Company Ltd to supply of high-grade coal. Proposed replacement of the ESP damaged internals and improvement of the ash handling systems.
  - b. The works pertaining to ETP of stage-I-III not yet completed. The existing sedimentation tanks not adequate for treatment of the floor washings and the overflow of the settling tanks discharging into Budameru Channel.
  - c. The industry carried feasibility report for hydrobin systems through third party. As per the report, it is not possible to provide Hydro bin system to Stage-II.
  - d. The ash pond effluents proposed to recycle and reuse in the Stage V. The ash water recycling system is proposed to complete shortly.
  - e. Proposed to provide CC cameras for continuous monitoring of the ash pipelines and leakage control. The works pertaining to CC cameras not yet started.
  - f. Open stacking of ash in the plant premises was observed at the bottoms of the ESPs at Unit 5, 6, 7 & 8.
  - g. The representative of the industry informed that an amount of Rs.28 Crores sanctioned for rectification of the pollution control systems and they will replace of

ESP damaged internals.

- h. The industry conducted feasibility study conversion of the OTC system to closed cycle system. As per the report, it is not technically feasible to provide cooling towers for stage-I,II&III units.
- i. The PO issued to provide wet limestone based Flue Gas De-Sulphurization (FGD) System for control of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions vide PO order dated.14.07.2022 to the Unit 7 (Stage IV). Works not yet started.
- j. Patrolling system provided to monitor the leakage of ash during conveyance and transportation of boiler ash.
- k. Full-fledged MDSS system not provided and Coal dust emissions were observed around the coal stock yard.
- l. At present, no ash stock yards observed along the National Highway.
- m. The online stack monitoring systems and AAQM not working to measure all the prescribed pollution parameters.
- n. The Plant has not done the periodical calibration.
- o. The industry is using the coal which contain ash content more than 50 % which more than the designated capacity of the air pollution control systems.
- p. The industry requested the AIIMS, DM & HO, YSR University of Health Sciences and the Registrar, Acharya Nagarjuna University to furnish willingness for carry out health studies on human beings in the influence zone and non-influence zone vide letter dated.02.04.2024.
- q. The industry requested the JD, Animal Husbandry, Vijayawada to furnish willingness for carry out health studies on the animals in the influence zone and non-influence zone vide letter dated.02.04.2024.

**WHEREAS** the RO, Vijayawada issued notices to the industry on 01.07.2024 for non-compliance of the Board directions.

**WHEREAS** vide ref. 5<sup>th</sup> cited, the EE, RO, Vijayawada vide letter dt: 05.11.2024 informed that agitation conducted by the Pollution Porata Samithi, Ibrahimpatnam, NTR District in front of the industry on 03.11.2024. Further informed that there is no progress at the industry to achieve compliance to the prescribed standards and to rectify the non-compliances to Board directions / CTO conditions.

**WHEREAS** a hearing was conducted before the Monitoring (Task Force) Committee Meeting of A.P. Pollution Control Board on 25.11.2024. The representatives of the industry and EE, RO, Vijayawada attended the meeting in person. The EE, RO, Vijayawada informed that earlier, the Board received complaints against the industry regarding pollution problems caused by the industry and adverse news items in various newspapers. The issue was reviewed in the Monitoring (Task Force) committee meeting held on 25.01.2024 and the Board issued certain directions to the industry on 02.02.2024. Complaints received from Sri EAS Sarma, Former Energy Secretary to Gol,

Sri Ch. Venugopal Rao and from the Member of NTPPS Kalushya Niyantana Praja Porata Samithi against the air and water pollution caused by M/s. Dr. Narla Tatarao Thermal Power Station and to take necessary action. Complaints also received on pollution caused by the industry from Sri Md. Masud Ali, Advocate through A.P. Legal Services Authority and EFS&T Department. The Board also received the complaints from the Guntupalli villagers and The Krishna Co-Op. Irrigation & Agricultural Improvement Society on air pollution caused by the industry and discharge of the ash containing water into the agricultural canals and accumulation of the ash in the agricultural fields. A complaint filed by Sri Chinta Ramesh Babu, D.No.7-98, Guntupalli (V), Ibrahimpatnam (M), NTR District through Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) on 01.07.2024 regarding discharging of the ash containing water into the agricultural canals, not developing greenbelt in an extent of 65 Acres and crop damage due to accumulation of the ash in the agricultural fields.

Further informed that the industry is operating the thermal power plant without operating ESPs. Stack, Ambient air quality monitoring reports revealed that the industry is continuously exceeding the prescribed standards. The industry not implemented adequate measures for suppression of the boiler ash at ash pond and during transportation. Regional Office, Vijayawada issued notices on 21.02.2024, 07.03.2024 & 01.07.2024 for non-compliance of the Board directions to the TPP for violating the Consent Conditions and directions. The industry is not complying with the Board directions to prevent ash slurry discharges to outside the premises. The representatives of the industry informed that they will implement adequate measures shortly to control pollution problems in the surroundings.

During the review, the committee noted that the Board officials inspected the TPP and its surroundings on 13.06.2024 & 04.07.2024 and reported the following observations:

1. Damages were observed to ESPs of the unit 5 & 6 and thick smoke emissions were observed from their stacks. Stack monitoring conducted from the boilers operating at stage IV, V and VI and the monitored value for the particulate matter is in the range of 3420 to 5614 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> against the standard of 100 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>.
2. Ambient air quality monitoring conducted different locations at the industry and the monitored value for the SPM is 90 to 261 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (against the standard of 100 µg/m<sup>3</sup>).
3. The fly ash is disposing from the bottom hoppers of the ESPs of the unit- 5 & 6.
4. Leakage of the fly ash was observed from the ESP of unit-7 (500 MW). The ash is storing openly at ESP bottom area and the same is lifting into trucks by JCB. Fugitive emissions were observed at fly ash handling at Unit-7.
5. The above fly ash is loading into trucks through JCBs instead of using pneumatic system.
6. There is no fly ash and bottom ash conveying system to the Unit-8 (800 MW) and the ash storing openly at the bottom of the ESP. Fugitive emissions were observed large scale at ash handling area.
7. The industry has not improved the performance of the ESPs attached to the Unit-I to Unit-VI and thick smoke emissions are observed.
8. The online stack monitoring system provided to boiler-1,2,3 & 6 are not showing the SPM values.
9. The public drains near the ash pond area and along with the National highway are

- deposited /filled with boiler ash of the industry.
10. The ash sludge from the ash pond was observed on the road leading to ash pond to National Highway due to spillages from the ash carrying trucks and thereby causing fugitive emissions to the surrounding area.
  11. Open storage of crushed coal was observed without providing any fugitive dust containing measures such as covering the surface of coal stockpiles with tarpaulin sheets.
  12. The industry is discharging the floor washing effluents of Stage-I to III into Budameru channel without treatment except settling tanks. The settling tanks are filled up with ash sludge. Sludge formation also observed in the Budameru channel.
  13. The industry has not provided hydro bins for Stage-I, II & III for bottom ash disposal and not provided cooling tower for Stage-I to III as per consent conditions of CTO order dated.24.04.2023. The artificial cooling provided are utilizing during summer season.
  14. The industry has not provided hydro bins for Stage-V for bottom ash disposal as per the condition of CTO order dated.24.04.2023 and also not provided ash water recycling system.
  15. The industry provided sedimentation tanks to the Unit-7 and the over flow water discharging outside the industry premises.
  16. The industry not provided sedimentation tanks to the Unit-8 and the floor washings mixed with ash is discharging into agricultural canals.
  17. Coal dust emissions observed at coal stocking yard and transit points and at nearby residential area around the coal stockyard.
  18. The industry is discharging ash contaminated water from the Southern side of the industry to the agricultural canals and the water joining in to agricultural fields.
  19. Ash accumulation was observed in the agricultural canal and in some of the agricultural lands.
  20. Ash dust spillages were observed along the National Highway from Jupudi area to Guntupalli and are causing fugitive emissions to the road travelers.

**WHEREAS** the EFS&T Dept, vide letter dt. 05.08.2024 instructed the Board to furnish action taken report on the complaint No. 343/1/3912024 filed by Sri Cherukuri Venu Gopal before the Hon'ble NHRC on pollution caused by the M/s. Dr. Narla Tatarao Thermal Power Station (Dr. NTTPS), Ibrahimpatnam (V) & (M), NTR District. Further, the Board official again inspected the TPP in connection with agitation conducted by the Pollution Porata Samithi, Ibrahimpatnam, NTR District in front of the industry on 03.11.2024 and informed vide letter dt. 05.11.2024 that there is no progress at the TPP to rectify the non-compliances to Board directions / CTO conditions. Further reported the following status -

21. The online Particulate Matter parameter is not working for the Boiler-1,2 & 3. The online particulate matter of Boiler 4,5 & 6 are continuously exceeding the stipulated standards of 100 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>.
22. The online SO<sub>2</sub> values of Boiler-I, III, IV, V & VI are in between 900 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> to 1350 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>, as against the standard of 600 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>.
23. The online Particulate Matter values of the stack attached to the 500 MW Stage-IV (Unit-VII) is in between 90 to 110 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> thereby exceeding prescribed standard

of PM-50 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>. The SO<sub>2</sub> parameter recorded as 900 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> to 1180 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> as against the standard of 200 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>.

24. The industry has not connected the Stage-V boiler online stack monitoring data to the APPCB server.
25. The Two CAAQM stations provided at B-Colony and towards railway wagon workshops are not in operation and not updating any data.

In view of the above recommendations, it is hereby directed to furnish detailed plan of action of Dr. Narla Tatarao Thermal Power Station (NTTPS), Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada, Krishna District within 2 weeks along with budgetary estimations to rectify the above violations within 3 months, to take further action in the matter.

**S SRI SARAVANAN  
MEMBER SECRETARY**

To  
The Occupier,  
M/s. Dr. Narla Tatarao Thermal Power Station  
(Dr. NTTPS) (formerly M/s. Vijayawada Thermal Power Station),  
Ibrahimpatnam (V) & (M), Krishna District.

Copy to:

1. The JCEE, ZO, Vijayawada for information and necessary action.
2. The EE, RO, Vijayawada for information and necessary action.

## ANNEXURE - II



ANDHRA PRADESH POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED  
 Dr.Narla Tata Rao Thermal Power Station (Formerly V.T.PS)  
 Ibrahimpatnam, NTR (Dt.), (Andhra Pradesh)  
 Phone No: 0866-2882203 Mail : vtps.ce@apgenco.gov.in

From  
 The Chief Engineer  
 Operation and Maintenance  
 Dr.NTTPS., Ibrahimpatnam

To  
 The Member Secretary,  
 A.P.Pollution Control Board,  
 APIIC colony,  
 opp Jamac apartment,  
 Autonagar,  
 Vijayawada - 520007.

Lr.No.CE/(O&M)/SE(C/Env)EE(C/Env)Dr.NTTPS/F.63/D.No. 122 /25, dt. 22-08-2025.  
 Sir,

Sub: APGENCO- Dr.NTTPS – Env. Dvn-Latest Status on the implementation of the directions issued by APPCB on 10.01.2025–submitted-Reg.

Ref: 1. Order No.31/APPCB/HO/ECS/VJA/2019-Dt.10.01.2025.  
 2. Agenda no. 06 of monitoring (tf) committee meeting scheduled on 12.08.2025

&&&

With reference to the APPCB Monitoring (Task Force) committee meeting held on 12.08.2025 for review of SUO MOTO case O.A.No.314 of 2024, the latest status on the implementation of the directions issued by APPCB on 10.01.2025 is herewith submitted for perusal.

Encl: Annexure (8 sheets)

Yours faithfully,

*[Signature]*  
 22/8/25  
 CHIEF ENGINEER::O&M  
 Dr.NTTPS:IBRAHIMPATNAM

Copy to the

1. The Chief Engineer/Generation/APGENCO/VidyutSoudha/Vijayawada-520 004 for information. Encl: As above
2. The Chief Engineer/Civil/Thermal/VidyuthSoudha/Vijayawada for information please. Encl: Annexure (8 sheets)
3. The Chief Engineer/Civil/Hydel,G.Services,C&I/VidyuthSoudha/Vijayawada for information please. Encl: Annexure (8 sheets)
4. Superintending Engineer /Civil/Environment/Dr.NTTPS for information. Encl: As above
5. The Environment Engineer, APPCB/Regional Office, Vijayawada with reference to the directions of the Member Secretary/ APPCB dated 10.01.2025. Encl: As above
6. The Additional Director/MOEF&CC/ Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road, Vijayawada – 520010 for information.
7. Smt Janani Shankar, Advocate, NGT Chennai/ 1956 H Block, 5th Street, 11th Main Road, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600 040.

Latest Compliancy status on the directions communicated by the Member Secretary/APPCB/VJA dt.10.01.25

S.No	Observation	Latest Status as on dt. 22.08.2025.
1.	<p>Damages were observed to ESPs of the unit 5 &amp; 6 and thick smoke emissions were observed from their stacks. Stack monitoring conducted from the boilers operating at stage IV, V and VI and the monitored value for the particulate matter is in the range of 3420 to 5614 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> against the standard of 100 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>.</p>	<p>APGENCO Management had sanctioned an amount of 119 Cr under EP &amp; FF budget for improvement of Ash handling systems all Units as below:</p> <p>i)Rs. 10 Crore on 06.12.2023: Purchase Orders have been placed and executed for procurement of spares, pumps &amp; Ammonia gas cylinders for dry fly Ash handling systems of stage-I, II, III &amp; IV.</p> <p>ii)Rs.18 Crores on 01.04.2024: Purchase Orders have been placed and executed for procurement of spares, pulleys, pumps, valves, rollers, spares of ESP , emitting electrodes for dry fly ash handling systems of stage-I, II, III &amp; IV,</p> <p>iii)Rs. 31 Crores on 16.12.2024: Purchase Orders have been placed and executed for procurement of spares, compressors, rectification of ESPs internals, ball bearing, scrapper conveyors of dry fly ash handling systems of stage-I, II, III &amp; IV including bottom ash handling system,</p> <p>iv) R&amp;M budget of Rs.60 Crores for renovation of ash handling system in Unit-5 &amp; 6: The Work order was placed on M/s Nagarjuna Engineering Projects on 03.02.2025. The works are in progress and all the works will be completed BY 31.03.2026.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copies of sanction and Budget Utilization details are enclosed for reference.</li> <li>• APGENCO management requested M/s Singareni Collieries company Ltd for supply of high grade coal so as to reduce</li> </ul>

		ash generation and SO2 emissions. Copies of correspondence are attached here with.
2.	Ambient air quality monitoring conducted different locations at the industry and the monitored value for the SPM is 90 to 261 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (against the standard of 100 µg/m <sup>3</sup> ). The fly ash is disposing from the bottom hoppers of the ESPs of the unit- 5 & 6.	With the above measures, Performance of ESPs of all Units are improved in reduction of Suspended Particulate Matter in stack emissions, the quality of Ambient Air in the surrounding villages are meeting the permissible limits. At present all the ESP hoppers of Unit 5&6 are being evacuated through fly ash evacuation system only. There is no fly ash disposal at bottom of hoppers.
3.	Leakage of the fly ash was observed from the ESP of unit-7 (500 MW). The ash is storing openly at ESP bottom area and the same is lifting into trucks by JCB. Fugitive emissions were observed at fly ash handling at Unit-7.	During Annual Overhaul of Unit-7 in the FY 2025-26, all leakages from ESP hoppers are arrested by replacing damaged parts & sleeve gaskets of ESP evacuation system and normalcy restored. There are no fugitive emissions with fly ash handling.
4.	The above fly ash is loading into trucks through JCBs instead of using pneumatic system.	At present, no ash being dumped at ESP hoppers. Ash is being conveyed to silo & hydro bins through pneumatic system only.
5.	There is no fly ash and bottom ash conveying system to the Unit-8 (800 MW) and the ash storing openly at the bottom of the ESP. Fugitive emissions were observed large scale at ash handling area.	Fly ash collected in ESPs is being disposed of through Two ash silos from January 2025. Two 400 NB ash disposal pipelines have been erected up to the main ash pond to convey bottom ash and are presently in use.
6.	The industry has not improved the performance of the ESPs attached to the Unit-I to Unit-VI and thick smoke emissions are observed.	APGENCO has improved the performance of the ESPs attached to the Unit-I to Unit-VI with the measures taken and mentioned in reply of S No.1.
7.	The online stack monitoring system provided to boiler-1, 2, 3 & 6 are not showing the SPM values.	New Online Dust Monitors for Unit-1, 2 & 3 are procured. These will be installed after erection of new chimney lift for which purchase order was placed on M/s. Ali craft firm for supply and installation of chimney lift (in place of damaged chimney lift of Stack1) and the work is in progress.
8.		

		<p>• Online dust monitors of remaining Units- 5, 6 &amp; 7 are in working condition and the data is being uploaded continuously in the statutory websites.</p>
9.	<p>The public drains near the ash pond area and along with the National highway are deposited /filled with boiler ash of the industry.</p>	<p>Annual estimate towards "Removal of ash/silt from the drains of Bund-I&amp;II of Stage-III ash pond" is in operation for removing of ash as and when deposited/filled in the public drains time to time near the ash pond area and all along the National Highway. The work was awarded to the contractor and the work is commenced and is in progress.</p>
10.	<p>The ash sludge from the ash pond was observed on the road leading to ash pond to National Highway due to spillages from the ash carrying trucks and thereby causing fugitive emissions to the surrounding area.</p>	<p>Annual estimate for "Engaging of water tanker and JCB at Stage-III ash pond for the period of 12 months" is in operation for Sprinkling of water daily to suppress the spilled ash dust on the road leading from ash pond to National Highway and also sweeping the road daily along the National Highway. The work was awarded to the contractor and the work is commenced and is in progress.</p>
11.	<p>Open storage of crushed coal was observed without providing any fugitive dust containing measures such as covering the surface of coal stockpiles with tarpaulin sheets.</p>	<p>Work was issued to M/s Saraswati Constructions, Secunderabad for construction of coal stock yard shed at CHP/Dr.NTTPS. The works will be completed by 30.06.2026.</p>
12.	<p>The industry is discharging the floor washing effluents of Stage-I to III into Budameru channel without treatment except settling tanks. The settling tanks are filled up with ash sludge. Sludge formation also observed in the Budameru channel.</p>	<p>The industry provided sedimentation tanks to the unit-1 to 6 are being cleaned regularly by fixing the agencies on first come first allocation basis and are transporting the ash at free of cost. Effluent Treatment Plant has been constructed for treatment of effluents generated in Stage-I,II &amp; III Units with recycle arrangements for re-use of treated water. Construction of clarifier for further treatment of power house effluents along with sumps for pumping arrangements for re-use of treated water is in progress and will be completed by the end of September-25. Pumping of treated water from sedimentation</p>

		<p>tanks to ash pump house is being carried out without letting out into Budameru.</p> <p>An agency M/s SVS Suppliers, Guntupalli is engaged for daily lifting of silt deposits from sedimentation tank of Stage-I to III.</p>
13.	<p>The industry has not provided hydro bins for Stage-I, II &amp; III for bottom ash disposal and not provided cooling tower for Stage-I to III as per consent conditions of CTO order dated.24.04.2023. The artificial cooling provided are utilizing during summer season.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft report on feasibility study for providing Hydrobins for Stage-I &amp; III is received from M/s Indure Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi.</li> <li>• The feasibility study for construction of Hydrobins for units 5&amp;6 was completed and preparation of DPR under active consideration. Hydro bins are not feasible for Stage-I as the Units-I &amp; II are 45 years older units. Hydrobins are also not feasible for Stage-II as bottom ashing is done through scraper conveyor system and due to space constraint.</li> <li>• Finalization of DPR for providing hydrobins for units 5 &amp; 6 is under progress.</li> <li>• In existing once through cooling system of units 1 to 6, the water required for the plant is drawn through CW canal from river Krishna and the condenser hot water is discharged into Budameru Diversion Channel (BDC) of I &amp; CAD department which joins river Krishna. Now the cooling towers are to be provided in place of once through cooling system. The cooling towers are provided for stage-IV and Stage V units during the construction itself for cooling of condenser hot water for recirculation without discharging into outside premises.</li> <li>• The feasibility and technical study for conversion from once through cooling system to closed cycle cooling system</li> </ul>

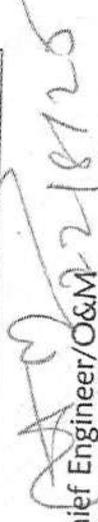
for 6x210MW (Stage-I,II&III) of Dr. NTTPS was carried out by external agency M/s TUV SUD South Asia Pvt Ltd., Mumbai-72 and report submitted during November 2019. The report concluded that "Converting open cycle cooling system to closed cycle cooling system is not technically feasible in the existing Dr.NTTPS project site".

- The same was informed to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) with detailed report, requesting for exemption.
- On 31-05-2023, a team of CEA Engineers visited Dr.NTTPS in response to our request for exemption of closed cycle system & necessary information was also furnished to CEA vide Lr. No. CE/O&M/Dr.NTTPS/SE/Civil/Envnt./F.11A/D.No.222/23, Dt. 06.06.2023.
- MoEF & CC, GOI Notification had issued an amendment on 03.07.2025 regarding installation of cooling towers as "Provided that the Ministry may, in consultation with the Central Electricity Authority and the Central Pollution Control Board, for reasons to be recorded in writing by an order grant exemption to thermal power plants from installation of Cooling Towers".
- Recently letters were addressed to Secretary/MoEf & CC and Chairman, CEA requesting to arrange to consider the exemption of Dr. NTTPS Stage-I, II & III from installation of cooling towers as per MoEF Notification. Final orders from CEA are awaited.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IDCT are available for Stage-I, II &amp; III to makeup the CW sump levels for Stage-I-III. Whenever the river water level falls below the normal value mainly in summer season, the IDCT are being kept into service.</li> </ul>
14.	<p>The industry has not provided hydro bins for Stage-V for bottom ash disposal as per the condition of CTO order dated.24.04.2023 and also not provided ash water recycling system.</p>	<p>Civil works for all the 3 hydro bins are completed. Erection of the internal components of Hydro Bins 1 &amp; 2 on the mechanical side is presently in progress. Erection of two pipelines from the sump pumps up to the hydro bins is also in progress, and the associated supporting structure is scheduled to be completed by the end of September-25.</p>
15.	<p>The industry provided sedimentation tanks to the Unit-7 and the over flow water discharging outside the industry premises.</p>	<p>During Annual Overhaul of Unit-7 in FY 2024-25. Over flow water from Hydrobin Recycle sump areas will be reused for bottom ash and other operations and hence there will not any discharges outside the plant premises. Ash settled at sedimentation tank is being cleaned regularly and clean water only being discharged.</p>
16.	<p>The industry not provided sedimentation tanks to the Unit-8 and the floor washings mixed with ash is discharging into agricultural canals.</p>	<p>02 Nos temporary sedimentation tanks are provided. Construction of 1 No permanent sedimentation tank is in progress and it will be completed by October '25.</p>
17.	<p>Coal dust emissions observed at coal stocking yard and transit points and at nearby residential area around the coal stockyard.</p>	<p>To avoid coal dust emissions at coal stock yard and transit points the following measures were already taken</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-spray of water on wagons before tipping.</li> <li>Grid spray at wagon tippers while tipping.</li> <li>Water sprinklers are used to sprinkle water on conveyors.</li> <li>Leakage arrested at transfer points.</li> </ol>
18.	<p>The industry is discharging ash contaminated water from the Southern side of the industry to the agricultural canals and the water joining in to agricultural fields.</p>	<p>Ash water is let into regular storm water drain (South side) and discharged to outside drains through temporary sedimentation tanks and clear water is allowed after settling of ash in the tanks.</p>

		Measures are taken to avoid joining of ash contaminated water to agricultural canals. A settling tank was constructed to storm water to avoid ash contamination.
19.	Ash accumulation was observed in the agricultural canal and in some of the agricultural lands.	Ash is being removed from the canal and agricultural fields channel by the APGENCO whenever accumulated.
20.	Ash dust spillages were observed along the National Highway from Jupudi area to Guntupalli and are causing fugitive emissions to the road travelers.	Continuous supervision on the Trucks/Lorries at ash pond to cover the Truck body fully with tarpaulins and instructions were issued to the Truck drivers not to park their vehicles on the National High way. Necessary steps are being taken to prevent ash spillage.
21.	The online Particulate Matter parameter is not working for the Boiler-1,2 & 3. The online particulate matter of Boiler 4,5 & 6 are continuously exceeding the stipulated standards of 100 mg/Nm <sup>3</sup> .	Information provided in S No.8.
22.	The online SO <sub>2</sub> values of Boiler-I, III, IV, V & VI are in between 900 mg/Nm <sup>3</sup> to 1350 mg/Nm <sup>3</sup> , as against the standard of 600 mg/Nm <sup>3</sup> .	The MOEF&CC extended the base line data to comply with the SO <sub>2</sub> parameter for another three more years i.e. up to 31.12.2027.
23.	The online Particulate Matter values of the stack attached to the 500 MW Stage-IV (Unit-VII) is in between 90 to 110 mg/Nm <sup>3</sup> thereby exceeding prescribed standard of PM-50 mg/Nm <sup>3</sup> . The SO <sub>2</sub> parameter recorded as 900 mg/Nm <sup>3</sup> to 1180 mg/Nm <sup>3</sup> as against the standard of 200 mg/Nm <sup>3</sup> .	<p><u>Stack Test Results :</u>  Date of Testing :22.08.2025  SPM: 42 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>  SO<sub>2</sub> : 400 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>  NOx : 198 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>  Total No.of fields :72  No. of fields in service : 72</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As seen from the above it could be noticed that the SPM values are in decrement stage every month.</li> <li>• Engineering consultancy services for installation of wet limestone based Flue Gas desulphurization (FGD) systems for Dr. NTTPS Stage-IV (1x500 MW) Unit-7 was awarded to M/s</li> </ul>

	<p>STEAG Energy Services India Pvt Limited (Copy enclosed) by APGENCO, Head Quarters and the work is in progress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The timeline for taking measures for controlling SO2 emissions as per the revised time schedule given vide MOEF &amp; CC, GOI Notification G.S.R. 787(E) dated 30.12.2024 is upto 31.12.2027 (Copy enclosed).</li> <li>The installation of FGD system will be expedited and reported periodically.</li> </ul>
24.	<p>The industry has not connected the Stage-V boiler online stack monitoring data to the APPCB server.</p> <p>Erection of new stack elevator has been completed.</p>
25.	<p>The Two CAAQM stations provided at B-Colony and towards railway wagon workshops are not in operation and not updating any data.</p> <p>M/s BHEL is requested for erection of the online stack monitoring equipment as it is under the scope of M/s BHEL. The instruments will be installed at the 75 m level.</p> <p>The CAAQMS station provided at B-colony, Kondapalli is working and data is -being uploaded to APPCB Website. Due to power fluctuations temporarily railway wagon workshop CAAQMS is stopped and laying of power cable line work is in progress. It will be completed by 31.10.2025.</p>

  
 Chief Engineer/O&M-2/18725  
 Dr.N.T.P.S. Ibrahimpatnam

**Report of the A.P. Pollution Control Board (APPCB) in compliance with the Hon'ble N.G.T, Chennai Order dated.05.03.2025 in O.A. No.314 of 2024(SZ) earlier O.A. No.1302 of 2024 (PB) title "Residents stage protest against pollution caused by Vijayawada Thermal Power Station".**

It is humbly submit that M/s. Dr. Narla Tatarao Thermal Power Station is a Thermal Power Plant operating at Ibrahimpatnam (V&M), NTR District with Electricity production capacity of 2560 MW.

It is to submit that a case was filed before the Hon'ble N.G.T (PB), New Delhi on its own motion SUO MOTU based on the news item published in The Hindu newspaper dated.04.11.2024, under the caption "Residents stage protest against pollution caused by Vijayawada Thermal Power Station", vide OA No.1302 of 2024 (PB).

The case was listed on 19.11.2024 before the Hon'ble N.G.T (PB), Delhi and O.A. was transferred to the Southern Zonal Bench as the matter relates to the Southern Zonal Bench.

The case renumbered as O.A. No.314 of 2024 at the Hon'ble N.G.T (SZ). The Member Secretary, A.P. Pollution Control Board is one of the Respondent in the above O.A. No.314 of 2024 (SZ).

The pollution caused by the industry was reviewed by the A.P. Pollution Control Board and issued certain directions to the industry on 10.01.2025 to submit detailed Plan of Action (PoA) with budgetary estimations to rectify the violations. Copy enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

M/s. Dr. Narla Tatarao Thermal Power Station has submitted its action plan for control of the pollution vide letter dated.27.01.2025. The industry is in the process of rectification of the pollution control systems with an allocated budget of about Rs.59.0 Crores.

The Board has submitted status report on 10.01.2025 & 19.02.2025 to the Hon'ble N.G.T (SZ) in connection with the O.A. No.314 of 2024.

The case was listed on 05.03.2025 before the Hon'ble N.G.T and issued the following directions:

"1. The status report dated 19.02.2025 of the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB) is filed. However, the further action taken report, as previously directed by this Tribunal, has not yet been filed. Additionally, other respondents have not filed their replies/reports.

2. Ms. Janani Shankar, the learned counsel undertakes to file vakalat on behalf of Respondent No.5 and seeks time to file the reply.

3. Let the matter be listed on 13.06.2025".

The industry has started the rectification works pertaining to control of pollution and are under process.

The Board officials have inspected M/s. Dr. Narla Tatarao Thermal Power Station on 12.03.2025 & 29.03.2025 and conducted stack monitoring and verified the status of works carrying by the industry towards control of pollution.

In this regard, a detailed report was submitted to the Head office, Vijayawada on 15.04.2025 to initiate necessary action against the industry for control of pollution. Copy enclosed as **Annexure-II**.

The Board is closely monitoring the industry and shortly will review the status of compliance of directions issued by the Board and works in progress for control of pollution to take further necessary action against the industry.

This report is submitted for kind consideration. The APPCB will abide by all such directions as the Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and appropriate.

Dt.10.06.2025  
Place: Vijayawada.

*Final* 10/6  
Environmental Engineer,  
APPCB, Regional Office,  
Vijayawada.

**Item No.20:-**

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

[Through Physical Hearing (Hybrid Option)]

**Original Application No.314 of 2024(SZ)**

[Earlier O.A. No. 1302 of 2024(PB)]

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

Tribunal on its own motion **SUO MOTU**  
based on the News Item in The Hindu dt:  
04.11.2024 titled, "**Residents stage  
protest against pollution caused by  
Vijayawada Thermal Power Station**".

*And*

Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB),  
Through its Member Secretary,  
Andhra Pradesh and Ors.



...Respondent(s)

**Date of hearing: 13.06.2025.**

**CORAM:**

**HON'BLE Smt. JUSTICE PUSHPA SATHYANARAYANA, JUDICIAL MEMBER**

**HON'BLE Dr. SATYAGOPAL KORLAPATI, EXPERT MEMBER**

For Applicant(s): Suo Motu.

For Respondent(s): Mrs. Madhuri Donti Reddy for R1 & R4.  
M/s. N. Nathami for R2.  
Ms. Janani Shankar for R5.

**ORDER**

1. The reply affidavit dated 04.03.2025 filed by Respondent No.2 and the reply dated 11.06.2025 filed by Respondent No.5 are taken on record.

2. However, Respondents No.3 and 4 have not yet filed their respective replies/reports. Likewise, the further action taken report from the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB) is also awaited.

3. Post the matter on 29.08.2025.



Sd/-  
Smt. Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana, JM

Sd/-  
Dr. Satyagopal Korlapati, EM

O.A. No.314/2024(SZ)  
13<sup>th</sup> June, 2025. Mn.