



Pollution Control Board, Assam

(Department of Environment & Forests, Government of Assam)

অসম প্রদূষণ নিয়ন্ত্রণ পৰিষদ

(অসম চৰকাৰৰ বন আৰু পৰিৱেশ বিভাগ)

NABL Accredited Testing Laboratory : Certificate No. TC-11384



No. WB/GUW/T-2242/12-13/153

Dated Guwahati the, 23rd June, 2023

To

M/s Halco Aluminium Extrusions
Vill. Tetelia, Sonapur
Kamrup (M), Assam-782403
Email: rohan.sureka@halcoaluminium.com

Sub: CLOSURE NOTICE UNDER SECTION 33(A) OF THE WATER (PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION) ACT, 1974 AND 31(A) OF THE AIR (PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION) ACT, 1981.

WHEREAS, under Section 17 of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, one of the functions of the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) is to plan a comprehensive programme for prevention, control or abatement of air pollution and to secure the execution thereof and under Section 17 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1974, one of the functions of the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) is to plan a comprehensive programme for prevention, control or abatement of pollution of streams and wells in the state and to secure the execution thereof;

WHEREAS, under Section 21 of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Section 25 of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1974, no person shall without the previous consent of the State Board, establish or operate any industrial plant in an air pollution control area;

WHEREAS, you are operating your unit in the name and style of M/s Halco Aluminium Extrusions, Vill. Tetelia, Sonapur, Kamrup (M), Assam-782403;

WHEREAS, it is obligatory on the part of industries to install and operate Effluent Treatment plant (ETP) to comply with the effluent discharge standards as notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Rules framed thereunder and also to meet the consent conditions granted by Pollution Control Board, Assam (PCBA);

WHEREAS, there was report in various print media of Assam regarding death of fishes in the Duani beel and M/s Halco was blamed for releasing toxic chemicals from the industry and that was cited as the reason for death of fish in the wetland;

WHEREAS, the unit was monitored on 17.06.2023 by a team of officials from PCBA. The unit was found in operation. Effluent samples were collected from the discharge point of the ETP. The sample was analysed for **pH(3.55)**, **DO(3.5 mg/l)**, **TDS(3066 mg/l)**, **Chloride(175 mg/l)**, **Total Chromium(8.769 mg/l)**, **Zinc(17.046 mg/l)**, **Nickel (8.86 mg/l)**, **Residual Chlorine (1.8 mg/l)**. The unit has been found violating the effluent discharge standards severely. It was observed that the effluent were discharged into the surface drain, which led to the Duani beel;

WHEREAS, the sample was also collected from the drain in which effluent was discharged from the unit at the Railway culvert point. The sample was analysed for **pH(5)**, **TDS(3066 mg/l)**, **Chloride(16 mg/l)** and **Total Chromium(1.962 mg/l)** besides other parameters;

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Head Office : Bamunimaidam, Guwahati - 781021, Assam : India.

Phone : 2652774 & 2550258 : Fax : 0361-2550259 ; Gram : POLLUTIONCONTOL

E-mail : membersecretary@pcbassam.org; Website : www.pcbassam.org

Regional Offices at : Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Sibsagar, Tezpur, Guwahati, Bongaigaon, Nagaon & Silchar.



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WHEREAS, the unit was monitored again on 22.06.2023 by a team of officials from PCBA. The unit was found in operation. Effluent samples were collected from the discharge point of the ETP. The sample was analysed for **pH(4.88)** and the unit was again found violating the norms severely. The effluent samples collected from the drain leading to the Duani beel near culvert was analysed for **pH(4.5)**. The water sample at Duani beel was collected at the downstream of confluence point of the drain and the Duani beel and analysed for **pH (4.7)**. The pH at the upstream of the said confluence was analysed for **pH(6.2)**;

WHEREAS, the inspecting officials observed that the effluent from the acidic stream storage tank have been evacuated by your unit. The Board officials have assessed that discharge of effluent with very low pH have resulted in lowering of pH in the drain, in which effluent is discharged, leading to the Duani beel and also result a lowering of pH in the beel leading to acidic condition in the water body of the beel and death of fishes;

WHEREAS, the Board officials, during their visit on 17.06.2023, observed that the unit has been discharging untreated sewage generated in the residential quarters to the storm drain leading finally to the Duani beel;

WHEREAS, the Board officials, during their visit on 17.06.2023, observed that the unit has not installed signboards at the entry gate displaying the name of the industry and status of consent, even after repeated stipulation of the condition in the CTO order;

WHEREAS, the Board officials, during their visit on 17.06.2023, observed that hazardous waste like empty containers of hazardous chemicals were dumped in the open ground within its premises haphazardly;

WHEREAS, the Board officials, during their visit on 17.06.2023, observed that plastic waste were dumped in the open ground within its premises haphazardly;

WHEREAS, the Board has observed serious negligence by the unit, by continuing discharge of acidic effluent to the surface water body even after the media reports and observation of the PCBA;

NOW, THEREFORE, under the above facts & circumstances, Pollution Control Board, Assam is constrained to inform you that since, you have nonchalantly violated the provisions of law in force causing pollution to the environment and in exercising of powers conferred upon it under Section 33 (A) of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended till date, you are directed to **CLOSE DOWN** your unit with immediate effect.

Environmental compensation shall be levied to the unit as per the direction of the Hon'ble NGT w.e.f. 17.06.2023 to the date of revoking the closure direction.

The unit is also directed to implement the following environmental protection measures and subsequent submission of the action taken report to the Board for revoking of closure directions.

1. The unit shall revamp the ETP to meet with the discharge standards, as mandated by the Board. Online pH meter shall be installed at neutralization tank as well as effluent discharge point and such online effluent monitoring system shall be connected with PCBA server.

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2. The unit shall take necessary action for net zero liquid discharge from the unit by applying 100% recycling and reusing method.
3. The unit shall install flow meter at the Bore well to quantify the water consumption.
4. The unit shall install flow meter at the discharge point of the ETP.
5. The unit shall improve housekeeping.
6. The unit shall install chimneys of adequate height with all the DG sets.
7. The unit shall not dump any hazardous waste like empty containers of chemicals in the open areas but stack all those wastes under shed.
8. The unit shall install STP for treatment sewage generated in the residential quarters.
9. The unit shall install display board at the entry gate as per PCBA's notification No. PCBA/LGL-95/2021/notification/01 dtd. 11.11.2021
10. The unit shall stop dumping of any plastic waste haphazardly.
11. The unit shall quantify the consumption of chemicals like H₂SO₄, HCl, etc.

(Arup Kr. Misra)
Chairman

Memo No. WB/GUW/T-2242/12-13/153-A

Dated Guwahati the, 23rd June, 2023

Copy to:

- 1) Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environment and Forest Department, Dispur, Guwahati-06 for kind information.
- 2) The Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup Metro district for favour of information.
- 3) The Commissioner of Police, Kamrup Metro District for kind information.
- 4) The Chief General Manager (D), APDCL, Lower Assam Region, Bijulee Bhawan, 5th Floor, Paltan Bazar, Guwahati-781001 for favour of information. He is requested under Section-33 (A)(b) of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended to disconnect the supply of electricity to the unit within 7 (seven) days and furnish action taken report.
- 5) The Addl. Chief Env. Engineer, Regional Office, Guwahati, PCBA for information and necessary action.
- 6) PA to the Chairman, PCBA for kind appraisal of the Hon'ble Chairman.

(Shantanu Kr. Dutta)
Member-Secretary

Head Office : Bamunimaidam, Guwahati - 781021, Assam : India.

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