

Minutes of 34th meeting of the Technical Review Committee (TRC) under the Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Trans-boundary Movement) Rules, 2008 held on 10th December, 2014 under the chairmanship of Shri R.K.Garg

The decisions of the Ministry as per the agenda are as follows:

AGENDA ITEM NO 01: Clarification sought by Office of Commissioner of Customs, NOIDA with regard to import of goods from China declared as Carbon black Oil (Carbon Black feed Stocks) by M/s Continental Carbon India Ltd., Ghaziabad (F. No.12-90/2014-HSMD):

The Committee deliberated in detail on the issue and has the following comments on the reference made by the Commissioner of Customs in respect of import of carbon black oil (carbon black feedstock):

Decision:

- i) Carbon Black Oil/feedstock is not included in the category of Hazardous waste in the Hazardous Waste Rules, 2008. It is produced in refineries and not in petrochemical processes.
- ii) There are no standard specifications either national or international for carbon black oil/carbon black feedstock. The committee was informed that a proposal is under the consideration of BIS for formulating specifications for Carbon Black Feedstock.
- iii) The committee looked at the characteristics/specifications of carbon black oil/carbon black feedstock from three of the Indian Refineries namely Indian Oil Corporation, Barauni and Haldia and Reliance (Jamnagar). There is significant variation in various parameters among the three products.
- iv) The main consideration in suitability as carbon black feedstock is the high fraction of poly aromatics more than 50% resulting in high carbon content (>90%) and low hydrogen content.
- v) From the environmental considerations a limit of Sulphur content of 3% is being specified for carbon black feedstock.

AGENDA ITEM NO 02: Clarification regarding applicability of Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989 / Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Trans-boundary Movement) Rules, 2008 with respect to Carbon Black Feed stock (CBFS) (F. No. 16-1/2014-HSMD).

Decision:

- i) Carbon Black Oil/feedstock is not included in the category of Hazardous waste in the Hazardous Waste Rules, 2008. It is produced in refineries and not in petrochemical processes.
- ii) There are no standard specifications either national or international for carbon black oil/carbon black feedstock. The committee was informed that a proposal is under the consideration of BIS for formulating specifications for Carbon Black Feedstock.
- iii) The committee looked at the characteristics/specifications of carbon black oil/carbon black feedstock from three of the Indian Refineries namely Indian Oil Corporation, Barauni and Haldia and Reliance (Jamnagar). There is significant variation in various parameters among the three products.
- iv) The main consideration in suitability as carbon black feedstock is the high fraction of poly aromatics more than 50% resulting in high carbon content (>90%) and low hydrogen content.
- v) From the environmental considerations a limit of Sulphur content of 3% is being specified for carbon black feedstock.

AGENDA ITEM NO- 03: Clarification sought by Shri P P Vasudevan regarding use of indigenous patented Technology for Solid Fuel from Waste Phosphate Gypsum and Iron Oxide i.e. approval in principle by the MoEF for starting new industries on the basis of technology. (23-202/2014-HSMD)

Decision: The committee could not comprehend as to how solid fuel from iron oxide or phosphor-gypsum could burn vigorously. Accordingly, the matter was deferred by the Ministry.

AGENDA ITEM NO- 04: Review of “Spent Alumina Catalyst” as a Hazardous waste classified in Scheduled-I, requested by M/s

Panipat Refinery and Petrochemical Complex. (23-191/2013-HSMD)

Decision: The Ministry recommended that CPCB may be requested to draw samples (one sample of material lying accumulated and another sample of freshly removed spent catalyst) and analyze for Cyanide, PAH and heavy metals. Thereafter the matter will be reconsidered by the Ministry.

AGENDA ITEM NO- 05: Clarification sought by M/s Ishwardas Clearing Pvt. Ltd, regarding categorical clarification among Hard Zinc Spelter, zinc dross, Al dross and Al scrap thirl (23-195/2014-HSMD)

Decision: The committee was of the view, that as per HW Rules, 2008 both hard zinc spelter as well as zinc containing drosses come in the same category Schedule III B (B1100) of the HW Rules and do not require permission of MoEF&CC or DGFT license as long as zinc content is greater than 85% or as specified in B1100 of the Rules.

AGENDA ITEM NO- 06: Request from M/s Rubamin Limited, Vadodara with regard to Amendment of Hazardous Waste (Management Handling, and Trans-boundary Movement) Rules, 2008 wrt provision on Spent Catalyst and Zinc Ash/ skimmings in dispersible form (23-9/2010-HSMD).

Decision: The Committee's observations on two of the issues as highlighted in the application are as given below:

- i. Zinc ash/skimming containing zinc contains more than 65% and lead and cadmium less than 1.25% and 0.1% respectively are already importable without DGFT license and MOEF&CC permission. Other grades of zinc ash/skimmings (Schedule-III-B-1080) are in restricted category and require license from DGFT;
- ii. All types of spent catalyst containing metals as specified in Schedule III-B-1120 require permission from the MoEF&CC.

The Ministry did not recommend any change with regard to spent catalyst and Zinc Ash/ skimmings in dispersible form.

AGENDA ITEM NO- 07: Clarification sought by Indian Agro & Recycled Paper Mills Association and M/s DSG Papers Private Limited regarding categorization of ETP Sludge to be hazardous / non-hazardous as per Hazardous Waste Rules, 2008 (23-207/2014-HSMD).

Decision: The committee was of the view that, if the industry wants to utilize the sludge either primary or secondary, they can approach CPCB for permission for use for a specific purpose under rule- 11 of HW Rules, 2008. For taking out the sludge from the Hazardous waste category more studies with respect to AOX leaching need to be carried out and as such at this stage, it cannot be recommended. In the meantime, it is also suggested that CPCB come out with limiting concentrations for AOX in the leachate which is not presently specified in the Schedule-II.

AGENDA ITEM NO- 08: Clarification sought with regard to differential rate of duty levied on the import of aluminum scrap thrill under CTH 76020010 (Customs Tariff Heading), aluminum dross under CTH 26204010 from Krishan Kumar Rathi (23-265/2014-HSMD):

Decision: There is no clarity on the submission made by the applicant. The committee suggested for calling the applicant in the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO- 09: Clarification sought with regard to import of 2,200 used computers with flat screen monitors and key boards to the state run institutions of Jammu and Kashmir from a local NGO- Mr Irfan Malik, Department of Human Resources Administration of the City of New York, USA.

Decision: The committee noted that they had earlier recommended that no second hand computer should be allowed to be imported for charity or otherwise and there appears to be no reason to change that recommendation in this case.

AGENDA ITEM NO- 10: Representation by M/s Shivalik Reclamation Pvt. Ltd, Ranchi regarding the need of valid CTO for consideration of applications for import/export of tyre scrap under HW Rules, 2008 (23-60/2009)

Decision: The Committee recommended that a letter may be send to the Jharkhand state Pollution Control Board to obtain their comments w.r.t. renewal of CTO.

AGENDA ITEM NO- 11:

Other issues which were taken up suo-moto by the Committee

11.1 Criteria for import of lead acid battery scrap (ISRI: RAINS)

Decision: There are two types of lead containing waste used for recycling namely full used batteries (rains as per ISRI Code) and other scrap (rails, racks, ropes etc.). The full batteries need either dismantling or cutting manually or crushing and then processing.

Manual dismantling and cutting has health and safety impacts on the workers especially if the scale of operation is large. At the same time recycling of the full batteries by the small registered recyclers has to be promoted so that these batteries do not land in the hands of illegal backyard dismantlers and smelters. In view of this the Committee has been following the practice of allowing recycling of full batteries by small recyclers for indigenous material. However, for imported batteries the Committee has been recommending import of full batteries only to such recyclers who have automatic battery breaking plant with requisite safety and environment protection systems. The committee is of the view that we may continue to follow this practice.

11.2 Import of e-waste for recycling purpose

Decision: It was noted that the Expert Committee has already recommended during the Expert Committee meeting held on 3rd – 4th December 2014 that no e-waste should be imported unless a facility has been established for complete utilization / recovery of all the materials and environmentally sound operation of such facility is demonstrated. The Technical Review Committed endorsed this recommendation.