No. 362/PA/DG/EPA/2025
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONAL AGENCY
NATIONAL HOCKEY STADIUM, FEROZEPUR ROAD, LAHORE
Dated: 07/10/2025

EPA
ادارہ تحفظ ماحول حکومت پنجاب
An ISO Certified Agency

Subject: **CONSTITUTION OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON BRICK KILNS**

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Punjab is mandated to ensure the protection, conservation, rehabilitation, and improvement of the environment, including the prevention and control of pollution and the promotion of sustainable development;

2. **AND WHEREAS,** Brick Kilns have been identified as a significant contributor to air pollution, making it imperative that they operate strictly in an environment-friendly manner to safeguard public health and meet Punjab Environmental Quality Standards (PEQS);

3. **AND WHEREAS**, Rule 3 of the **Smog (Prevention and Control) Rules 2023** defines the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Brick Kilns, requiring proprietors to ensure the following:

i. Compliance with Environmental Quality Standards;
ii. Adoption of zigzag firing technology in brick kilns;
iii. Prohibition on the use of substandard fuels;
iv. Operation of an induced draught zigzag kiln featuring zigzag brick stacking, an induced fan or suction blower, and crushed coal as fuel; and
v. Display of a signboard at a prominent place or entry point, specifying the name of the brick kiln, the phrase "zigzag brick kiln," where applicable, its address, and ownership.

4. **AND WHEREAS**, the Brick Kilns Association met with the undersigned on **August 26, 2025**, to present the operational issues being faced by Brick Kiln Owners, especially about **Start-up Smoke, Fuel Restriction** and **Closure-Smoke;**

5. **AND WHEREAS,** Section 6(1)(i) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997 enables EPA to establish systems and procedures for surveys, surveillance, monitoring, measurement, examination, investigation, research, inspection and audit to prevent and control pollution;

6. **AND WHEREAS**, *Section 6(1)(j) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997 empowers the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Punjab to "take measures to promote research and the development of science and technology which may contribute to the prevention of pollution, protection of the environment, and sustainable development".*

7. **NOW, THEREFORE**, in exercise of the powers conferred upon me under Section 6(1)(i)(j) read with Section 5(4) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997, I, Dr. Imran Hamid Sheikh, PAS, Director General, Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab, do hereby constitute the following technical committee to devise strategic solutions and recommendations for environment-friendly operations of Brick Kilns for the above-mentioned issues:

Sr. No.	Name & Designation	Department / Association	Role
1	**Dr. Zafar Iqbal**, Additional Director General (Ops), EPA	EPA	Convener
2	**Dr. Muhammad Younis Zahid**, Director (Rtd.), EPA	Environmental Expert	Member
3	**Mr. Farooq Alam**, Director (Retd.), EPA	Technical Expert	Member
4	**Haji Mohammad Parvaiz**, Brick Kilns Owner	Rep Brick Kiln	Member
5	**Rana Ali Asad**, Brick Kilns Owner	Rep Brick Kiln	Member
6	**Engr. Salman Azhar Sh**, Brick Kilns Owner	Rep Brick Kiln	Member
7	**Mr. Talha Hanif**, Assistant Director EPA HQ	EPA	Secretary
8	Any other members to be co-opted by the members of the committee		Member

8. The Terms of Reference (TORs) of the committee shall be:

i. **Propose Mitigation Strategies:** Propose and devise clear, strategic solutions (use of clean fuel like LPG firing instead of other fuel types) and operational protocols to mitigate or eliminate the smoke emissions during the critical 72-hour start-up and closure phases, thereby maintaining compliance with Environmental Quality Standards;

ii. **Assess Alternative Fuel Viability:** Examine the feasibility, environmental performance, and regulatory status of biomass fuel as an alternative or supplementary fuel source for zigzag kilns;

iii. **Submit a comprehensive report** detailing findings and specific recommendations to the Director General, EPA Punjab, **within fortnight, positively**.

Issued under my hand & seal on this **7th day of October, 2025**.

DR. IMRAN HAMID SHEIKH (PAS)
DIRECTOR GENERAL
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
PUNJAB

CC

i. The Additional Director General (Ops / Imp), EPA Punjab
ii. All members of this committee / Officers Concerned
iii. All Deputy Directors (Field) / Assistant Directors (Field) EPA Punjab
iv. The In-charge, Strategy and Analysis Wing (SAW), EPA, Lahore.
v. PS to Secretary , Environment Protection & Climate Change Department Punjab
vi. PA to Director General EPA Punjab.