



EPA/SEC/O/260216/0028

ORDER

No. 459/PA to DG/EPA/2026:

PROCESSING OF COMPLIANCE STATUS REPORTS: MANDATORY LIVE CCTV FEED, UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER, AND VALIDITY PERIOD ON ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVALS

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Punjab is mandated under the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997 to provide for the protection, conservation, rehabilitation and improvement of the environment, prevention and control of pollution, and promotion of sustainable development in the Province;

2. **AND WHEREAS**, vide this office letter **No. 51/PA/DG/EPA/2024 dated 06.05.2024**, installation of Emission Control Systems (ECS) and CCTV cameras with provision of live feed of industrial stacks was made mandatory to enable real-time monitoring and remote verification of environmental compliance, thereby strengthening enforcement and reducing reliance on subjective inspections;

3. **AND WHEREAS**, vide this office **Executive Order No. 226/PA/DG/EPA/2025 dated 14.03.2025**, it was made mandatory that all inspections conducted through the Eco-Watch App shall include the Unique Identification (ID) Number of the inspected unit, in order to ensure traceability, standardized data recording, and audit-ready compliance documentation;

4. **AND WHEREAS**, vide this office **Order No. 299/PA/DG/EPA/2025 dated 28.07.2025**, issued under Section 6(1)(i) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997 read with Rule 4(d) of the Punjab Environmental Protection (Smog Prevention & Control) Rules, 2023, online access through CCTV cameras was mandated for live monitoring of emission-causing activities, thereby institutionalizing real-time, technology-enabled environmental surveillance;

5. **AND WHEREAS**, Compliance Status Reports submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency form the basis for issuance of confirmation of compliance and for regulatory and enforcement decisions, the credibility and reliability whereof necessarily depend upon objective verification, live monitoring, and traceable identification of the concerned unit;

6. **AND WHEREAS**, Regulation 13(1) of the Punjab Environmental Protection (Review of IEE and EIA) Regulations, 2022 requires the proponent, while seeking confirmation of compliance, to submit the requisite Compliance Status Report along with the Environmental Management Plan, clearly indicating the measures, procedures, and mechanisms adopted for management and mitigation of environmental impacts, including provisions for monitoring, reporting, and auditing throughout the life of the project, thereby necessitating objective, verifiable, and technology led assessment by the Agency;

7. **AND WHEREAS**, in the absence of live CCTV feed and a verified Unique Identification (ID) Number, Compliance Status Reports cannot be independently validated or reliably relied upon for regulatory decision-making, which undermines transparency, accountability, and effective institutional control.

8. **AND WHEREAS** Section 6(1)(i) of the act empowers to establish systems and procedures for surveys, surveillance, monitoring, measurement, examination, investigation, research, inspection and audit to prevent and control pollution, and to estimate the costs of cleaning up pollution and rehabilitating the environment in various sectors;

9. **NOW, THEREFORE**, in exercise of the powers conferred upon me, I, Dr. Imran Hamid Sheikh (PAS), Director General, EPA Punjab under Section 6(1)(i) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997, and in order to institutionalize objective, verifiable, and technology-enabled assessment of environmental compliance, it is hereby ordered that:

- i. No Compliance Status Report (CSR) shall be processed or approved unless live feed from CCTV cameras is made available on the Punjab Climate Watch, wherever applicable.
- ii. The Unique Identification (ID) Number shall mandatorily be incorporated in the Confirmation of Compliance (CoC) / No Objection Certificate (NOC) issued for the operational phase, and any such CoC / NOC issued without the Unique ID shall be deemed procedurally incomplete.
- iii. The expression "VALID UP TO _____" shall be clearly and prominently indicated immediately below the subject line of both the Construction No Objection Certificate (Construction NOC) and the Confirmation of Compliance (CoC) / No Objection Certificate (NOC) for the operational phase, so as to ensure clarity regarding the period of validity and enforceability.

10. This order shall come into force **with immediate effect** and shall remain in force until modified or withdrawn by the competent authority.

11. Issued under my hand & seal on this 16th day of February, 2026.



(DR. IMRAN HAMID SHEIKH)
DIRECTOR GENERAL
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AGENCY

C.C.

A copy is forwarded for information and necessary action to the:-

- 1) Secretary
Environment Protection and Climate Change Department
- 2) ***The Additional Secretary (Staff), Chief Secretary's Office, Lahore.***

- 3) **All Commissioners, Punjab**
- 4) **All Deputy Commissioners, Punjab**
- 5) **The Additional Secretary (Coordination), Chief Minister Office, Lahore.**
- 6) **The Secretary, Judicial Water & Environment Commission (JWEC), Punjab**
- 7) **PSO to Minister for Environment, Forest and P&D Board, Punjab.**
- 8) All DDs/ADs (Field) EPA Punjab (1 Deactivated)
- 9) **All Deputy / Assistant Directors (Field), EPA Punjab (with the direction to ensure compliance)**

10) All Directors of EPA

