



IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR EMISSION CONTROL IN OPEN COOKING STATION / BARBECUE GRILLS U/S 6(1)(t) OF THE PUNJAB ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, 1997

ORDER

WHEREAS, Govt. of Punjab is striving hard to combat the devastating impacts of prevailing smog season. Pre-emptive measures against all the sources of air pollution have already started by EPA as well as other concerned departments:

2. **AND WHEREAS**, as per Section 2(xxxiii) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997, **pollution** means the contamination of air, land or water by the discharge or emission of effluents or wastes or air pollutants or noise or other matter which either directly or indirectly or in combination with other discharges or substances alters unfavorably the chemical, physical, biological, radiation, thermal or radiological or aesthetic properties of the air, land or water or which may, or is likely to make the air, land or water unclean, noxious or impure or injurious, disagreeable or detrimental to the health, safety, welfare or property of persons or harmful to biodiversity.

3. **AND WHEREAS**, Section 6(1) (t) of the ibid Act empowers EPA to take or cause to be taken all necessary measures for the protection, conservation, rehabilitation and improvement of the environment, prevention and control of pollution and promotion of sustainable development;

4. **AND WHEREAS** the **Health Advisory System for Critical Air Pollution Events (HAS-CAPEs)** has been notified on 13.12.2022 under which the 1st meeting of Provincial CAPEs Committee (PCC) was held on 21.10.2024 which declared that Critical Air Pollution Event has taken place in Lahore, keeping in view the current high levels of Air Quality Index (AQI).

5. **AND WHEREAS** outdoor cooking stations/ barbecue grills which use coal, wood or charcoal as heating source, emit pollutants like particulate matter and volatile organic

compounds, which combine with other urban emissions to form smog, particularly in densely populated areas.

6. **AND WHEREAS** implementation of standardized guidelines will ensure consistent and effective emission control practices across such outdoor cooking stations/ barbecue grills. EPA has developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the management of emissions from such outdoor cooking stations/ barbecue grills which are as under:

- a) The outdoor cooking stations/ barbecue grills, which use coal, wood or charcoal as heating source, shall be equipped with a hood containing an exhaust fan of adequate capacity to capture and extract smoke, fumes, and airborne particles in compliance with Punjab Environment Quality Standards (PEQS);
- b) The hood shall include filters designed to prevent the release of grease-laden particles and smoke into the atmosphere;
- c) Where the use of filters alone is insufficient to achieve compliance with Punjab Environmental Quality Standards (PEQS), an additional wet scrubber or wet showering system shall be installed.

7. **NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Dr. Imran Hamid Sheikh, PAS, Director General, Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab in exercise of the powers conferred upon me U/S 6(1)(t) of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997, do hereby order that no restaurant/ hotel/shop which has placed its cooking station/ barbecue grill in outdoor which use coal, wood or charcoal as heating source, shall operate such outdoor cooking stations/ barbecue grills unless the SOPs mentioned ante para 6 are implemented in letter and spirit.

8. **Any contravention to this order shall be punished under U/S 188 PPC.**

9. **This order shall come into force with effect from 20th November 2024 and will remain in force till 31st January 2025 within the territorial jurisdiction of District Lahore.**

Issued under my hand and seal on this 5th day of November, 2024.



DR. IMRAN HAMID SHEIKH (PAS)
Director General
Environmental Protection Agency
Punjab

Copy forwarded for information:

- The Secretary, Environment Protection & Climate Change Department, Punjab
- The Commissioner Lahore Division, Lahore
- The Capital City Police Officer, Lahore
- The Deputy Commissioner, Lahore
- The Director General Public Relations (DGPR) with a request to ensure wide publicity.
- The Director General, Punjab Food Authority, Lahore
- The Cantonment Executive Officers, Lahore and Walton Cantonment Boards
- The Secretary, Judicial Water & Environment Commission (JWEC), Punjab
- The Additional Secretary (Staff), Chief Secretary's Office, Lahore
- The Additional Secretary (Coordination), Chief Minister Office, Lahore.
- The Chief Environment & Climate Change, P&D Board, Lahore
- PSO to Minister for Environment, Forest and P&D
- The Additional Director General (Ops & Imp), EPA Punjab
- The Deputy/ Assistant Director (Field), EPA, Lahore Division.
- PA to Director General EPA Punjab