



Dated: 23.10.2024

OFFICE ORDER:

Keeping in view the prevailing smog condition and rise in Air Quality Index (AQI), it is hereby ordered that, henceforth, all the hearings under Section 16(1) of Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997, Punjab Hospital Waste Management Rules 2014 and Personal Hearings under Regulation 19(1) of IEE/EIA Regulations 2022 shall be held online under the following SOPs:

1. The concerned directorate of EPA Headquarters shall specifically mention in the Hearing Notice that the Respondent and / or Proponent or their authorized representative shall attend the hearing in the office of the District Officer of his/her concerned district. In the Hearing Notice, it shall be clearly mentioned that the respondent and / or proponent or their authorized representative may send reply / documents (as the case may be) which he/she considers necessary for proving his/her stance, through registered post on the given address before the hearing date. He/she shall also be asked to submit a copy of his/her reply / documents (as the case may be) to the concerned District Office at the time of hearing.
2. The concerned Directorate of EPA Headquarters shall generate a Zoom Link on given date and time of hearing.
3. The said Zoom Link shall be shared with the concerned District Officer or his authorized representative at least 03 hours before the hearing time so that his office may facilitate the persons coming for the said hearings.
4. The District Officer or his authorized person shall verify the identity of participants and mark their attendance on standard format before admitting them to the meeting.
5. The concerned Directorates shall ensure that hearing proceedings are recorded and securely stored in their computers.
6. The District Officer shall send the attendance sheet, proof of identity of the attending person and any document / reply submitted by the respondent / proponent or his authorized representative, to the concerned directorate through registered post after the hearing proceedings within 03 days.
7. The concerned Directorate shall send the outcome of hearing to the respondent and / or proponent through registered mail.

 23/10/24

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

Copy forwarded for information:

- i. The Secretary, Environment Protection & Climate Change Department, Punjab
- ii. The Secretary, Judicial Water & Environment Commission (JWEC), Punjab
- iii. The Additional Secretary (Staff), Chief Secretary's Office, Lahore.
- iv. The Additional Secretary (Coordination), Chief Minister Office, Lahore.
- v. The Chief Environment & Climate Change, P&D Board, Lahore.
- vi. PSO to Minister for Environment, Forest and P&D
- vii. The Additional Director General (Ops & Imp), EPA Punjab.
- viii. All the Directors, EPA Headquarters, Lahore.
- ix. All Deputy/ Assistant Directors (Field), EPA, Lahore.
- x. PA to Director General EPA Punjab.