

**ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION (PREVENTION & CONTROL) AUTHORITY  
for the National Capital Region**

**Dr Bhure Lal  
Chairman**

**EPCA-R/2018/L-42  
March 22, 2018**

**To**

**The Registrar General  
Hon'ble Supreme Court of India  
New Delhi**

**Sub: Report filed in compliance with Hon'ble Court's order dated February 16, 2018 in the matter of Aluminium Association of India seeking permission for use and import of calcined pet coke**

Dear Sir,

This is with reference to the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated February 16, 2018 in W. P. (C) No 13029 of 1985 M. C. Mehta v/s UoI & Others.

I am hereby enclosing the **Report no. 82** of the Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority for the National Capital Region (EPCA). Hon'ble Supreme Court hearing scheduled for **March 23, 2018**.

Kindly arrange to place the report before the Hon'ble Court.

Thanking you,

  
**(Bhure Lal)  
Chairman, EPCA**



**Report 82****Report filed in compliance with Hon'ble Court's order dated February 16, 2018 in the matter of Aluminium Association of India seeking permission for use and import of calcined pet coke**

March 22, 2018

**Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority for NCR (EPCA)**

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On 16.2.2018, the application for impleadment and direction on B/O Aluminium Association of India was listed. The Hon'ble Court has asked EPCA to file its reply.

This report is being submitted in compliance with the order of February 16, 2018.

In its application, the Aluminium Association has argued:

- a. In the manufacture of Aluminium it requires calcined pet coke, which is also called Anode Grade pet coke.
- b. This Anode Grade pet coke has low sulphur and low metal content as compared to fuel grade pet coke (also called "green" pet coke)
- c. It is seeking permission to use calcined pet coke in its industry, which has been banned vide the orders of CPCB of November 15, 2017 in the states of UP, Haryana, Rajasthan (ban in Delhi exists).
- d. It is also seeking permission to import calcined pet coke. According to its application, India produces only 0.48 million tonnes of Anode Grade GPC for both Aluminium and Steel Industry. The use of imported pet coke for trading purposes has been banned by MOEF&CC on January 19, 2018 in the states of NCR.

**1. EPCA's examination of the issue**

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1. It is clear that the Aluminium industry requires calcined or anode grade pet for its manufacture. This 'calcined' pet coke is lower in heavy metal and sulphur content. The Aluminium industry uses this calcined pet coke in its manufacturing process – it is baked further to produce electrode for aluminium smelter.

2. The BIS standard 8502 of 1994, reaffirmed in 2000 for petroleum coke has a separate standard for calcined pet coke, which it states is the product obtained by calcining the green or raw coke at a temperature in the region of 1200-1300°C. The sulphur limit in calcined pet coke is 1.25 (12,500 ppm) as against 2.5 (25,000 ppm) in 'green' pet coke. Most importantly, there is control on heavy metal content in calcined pet coke.
3. A revised draft of this standard has been put for public comment on 24.10.2017. This draft standard includes the same limits for sulphur.
4. The standard for NOX and Sox for Aluminium industry has also been notified by MOEF&CC on January 29, 2018.
5. There is also only one Aluminium plant in all the states of NCR - Hindalco- Renukoot in UP, which is some 950 km from Delhi.
6. Even assuming Hindalco-Renukoot works at its maximum capacity, its requirement of calcined pet coke can be met from domestic sources.
7. The system for regulation of pet coke in permitted industries requires strengthening.

In its order of February 5, 2018, the Hon'ble Supreme Court had directed "*that the source of pet coke and its utilization should be monitored on a monthly basis for the first one year with all the details being put up on the website of the CPCB and therefore monitoring may be carried out on a quarterly basis.*" This direction was given in the context of the calcium carbide industry, but based on the EPCA report, which had required this regulation to be put in place for all industries permitted to use pet coke. Currently, it has been put in place only for calcium carbide industry (there is only one unit in NCR).

The Hon'ble Court may consider that this direction of February 5, 2018 be applicable to all such industries, namely cement, lime kiln and Aluminium (if permitted use).

## **2. Recommendations for the consideration of the Hon'ble Court**

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- 1. Aluminium industry may be permitted to use calcined pet coke in their process in the states of Haryana, Rajasthan, UP and Delhi.**
- 2. Aluminium industry may not be permitted to import calcined pet coke, but directed to use domestic calcined pet coke in the states of Haryana, Rajasthan, UP and Delhi.**
- 3. MOEF&CC may be asked to regulate the use of pet coke in all the permitted industries as per the directions of the Hon'ble Court of February 5, 2018.**