

Environmental Standards

Effluent

TEMPERATURE LIMIT FOR DISCHARGE OF CONDENSER COOLING WATER FROM THERMAL POWER PLANT

A. New thermal power plants commissioned after June 1, 1999.

New thermal power plants, which will be using water from rivers/lakes/reservoirs, shall install cooling towers irrespective of location and capacity. Thermal power plants which will use sea water for cooling purposes, the condition below will apply.

B. New projects in coastal areas using sea water.

The thermal power plants using sea water should adopt suitable system to reduce water temperature at the final discharge point so that the resultant rise in the temperature of receiving water does not exceed 7°C over and above the ambient temperature of the receiving water bodies.

C. Existing thermal power plants.

Rise in temperature of condenser cooling water from inlet to the outlet of condenser shall not be more than 10°C.

D. Guidelines for discharge point:

1. The discharge point shall preferably be located at the bottom of the water body at mid stream for proper dispersion of thermal discharge.
2. In case of discharge of cooling water into sea, proper marine outfall shall be designed to achieve the prescribed standards. The point of discharge may be selected in consultation with concerned State Authorities/NIO.
3. No cooling water discharge shall be permitted in estuaries or near ecologically sensitive areas such as mangroves, coral reefs/spaning and breeding grounds of aquatic flora and fauna.

**Source : EPA Notification
[GSR 7, dated Dec. 22, 1998]**