

F. No **IA-Z-11013/66/2026-IA-II (295554)**
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(IA Division)

Indira Parayavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road Road,
New Delhi – 110 003

Dated: 1st April, 2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Restriction for production of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) while granting environmental clearance - Intimation to State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAA) and EAC regarding compliance with obligations under the Montreal Protocol and the Kigali Amendment.

The undersigned is directed to state that the production of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) requires Environmental Clearance (EC) under the provisions of the EIA Notification 2006, as amended from time to time. Such projects fall under Item 5(f) of the Schedule of the said Notification and are appraised either at the Central level or by the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAA), depending upon their categorization.

2. HFCs were included as controlled substances under the Montreal Protocol through the adoption of the Kigali Amendment in October, 2016 at Kigali, Rwanda. In accordance with the obligations under the Amendment, India is required to undertake phasedown of production and consumption of HFCs as under:

(i) The baseline for HFC production/consumption shall comprise the average of HFC production/consumption for the calendar years 2024, 2025 and 2026, plus 65% of baseline average production/consumption of HCFC-22 during years 2009 & 2010.

(ii) There will be a freeze on baseline level of production and consumption of HFCs w.e.f. **1st January, 2028.**

(iii) The reduction schedule requires a phased decrease in production and consumption of HFCs from the established baseline as follows:

- 10% reduction by 2032
- 20% reduction by 2037
- 30% reduction by 2042
- 85% reduction by 2047

3. After the baseline is established as of 01.01.2027, the phasedown targets will be implemented through appropriate regulatory mechanisms, including amendment of the Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 to align with the HFC phasedown schedule under the Kigali Amendment, prohibition on setting up of new or expansion of HFC production capacity for controlled application after the freeze date of 01.01.2028, and implementation of an appropriate framework permitting HFC production, after taking into account the production capacity of the operational units as on 01.01.2028 as per the HFCs phasedown schedule of the Montreal Protocol.

4. At present, HFCs produced in India mainly include HFC-32, HFC-134a and HFC-125. These chemicals are primarily used in the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) and fire extinguisher sectors for controlled applications. However, the obligations under the Kigali Amendment apply only to controlled applications, whereas feedstock uses (use as raw material for manufacturing other chemicals with negligible emissions) are exempted under the provisions of the Montreal Protocol.

5. In view of the freeze date of 01.01.2028, it is necessary to put in place a mechanism to regulate and progressively reduce HFC production in order to meet India's international commitments. Accordingly, no additional HFC production capacity should be permitted beyond 31.12.2027.

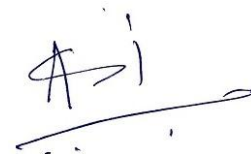
6. In view of the above, all State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAAs) and EAC are hereby requested to take note of the above obligations and ensure the following while granting Environmental Clearance for HFC production projects:

(i) No Environmental Clearance shall be granted for new or additional HFC production capacities beyond 31.12.2027 for controlled applications as per the Montreal Protocol.

(ii) Any additional HFC production capacity already granted Environmental Clearance for controlled applications shall not be allowed to commence production beyond 31.12.2027, in line with the freeze obligations under the Kigali Amendment.

(iii) Any fresh application seeking new or expansion EC for HFCs production for controlled applications shall be accompanied by an undertaking from the applicant that the installation, commissioning including commencement of production of the HFC production plant shall be done on or before **31st December, 2027**. It shall thereafter be bound by the limits on production as may be prescribed under the ODS Rules, 2000 as amended from time to time, or any other law for the time being in force.

7. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.



(A. N. Singh)
Scientist 'F' (IA Division)

To

- (i) The Chairperson/Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/SEACs
- (ii) The Chairperson/Members of all the Expert Appraisal Committee
- (iii) All the Officers of IA Division

Copy for Information

- (i) PS to Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- (ii) PS to Hon'ble MOS (EF&CC)
- (iii) PPS to the Secretary (EF&CC)
- (iv) PPS to the AS (AG)
- (v) PPS to JS (RA)
- (vi) Website of MoEF&CC /Guard file.