



STATUTORY COMPLIANCE - 04

Consent for Operation (CFO)

Consent for Operation enquires for operational facilities and their environmental consent requirements.



WHAT WE COVER

Operating profile — Describe activities, production and the facility's operating status.

Control arrangements — Organize information on environmental controls and monitoring.

Consent records — Review existing permissions and the proposed application or renewal scope.

Consent for Operation (CFO) Process under SPCB/PCC

The Consent for Operation (CFO), also referred to as Consent to Operate (CTO), is granted to industrial facilities prior to commencing their operations. This permission is required under section 25/26 of the Water Act of 1974 and section 21 of the Air Act of 1981 for industries that have the potential to pollute the air and water. These industries must apply for a Pollution No Objection Certificate from their respective State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) or Pollution Control Committee (PCC). Before starting their intended operations, industries in the green, orange, and red categories need to obtain a pre-operation NOC. However, some State Pollution Control Boards have a list of exempted categories (white category) of industries that do not require consent and can operate in any area within the state, if they receive site clearance from the local authority. Once the industrial unit is established and equipped with the necessary pollution control devices, the applicant must obtain a consent to operate (CTO/CFO) for the unit. Since this consent is granted for a specific period, it needs to be renewed periodically. Industrial units are responsible for ensuring timely renewal of the NOC and complying with the terms and post-compliances specified by the Board for their specific unit.

Consent for Operation (CFO) Approval Procedure Stage 1: Online Application: Submission and Consent Fee Payment through OCMMS. To streamline the consent management and monitoring process and facilitate ease of doing business, states have implemented the Online Consent Management and Monitoring System (OCMMS). This system allows for the submission of applications for fresh Consent to Establish (CTE) and Consent for Operation (CFO), as well as their renewal. In



addition to the Pollution NOC, specific units handling plastic waste, electronic waste (E-waste), hazardous waste, biomedical waste, etc., require authorization from the relevant State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) or Pollution Control Committee (PCC). Stage 2: Application Scrutiny: The application is scrutinized by a section officer who then forwards it to a supervising officer (Senior Scientific Officer/Scientific Officer/Environmental Engineer) for examination. The supervising officer may provide recommendations if necessary. Stage 3: Site Inspection: The Board assigns an inspecting officer who will visit the site after scheduling an appropriate appointment. During the visit, the officer, who is an expert in the field, inspects the entire facility in the presence of the owner or an authorized representative. The officer gathers information, conducts sample analysis of the trade effluent, and prepares an inspection report along with recommendations. Stage 4: Issuance/Rejection of Consent for Operation (CFO): Based on the recommendations of the inspecting officer and addressing any concerns raised during the inspection, the Chairman or Member Secretary of the concerned Pollution Control Board grants or rejects the Consent for Operation. This decision is made in accordance with the delegation of powers within the Board. Document Required for Consent for Operation (CFO) Under Air Act Index/Site Plan Topographical Map Detailed layout plan depicting various processes and point sources of emissions, as well as the position of stacks and chimneys Process Flow Sheet Latest analysis report Details of air pollution control devices provided or proposed Ambient Air Quality Report (if available) Copy of Consent to Establish (CFE) along with implementation details for specified conditions List of raw materials with their monthly quantity (in metric tons) Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for chemical industries Under Water Act Details of water pollution control devices provided or proposed Manufacturing process flow diagram illustrating the input and output in terms of products and waste generated Site map indicating the location of the site Site clearance obtained from the local authority Breakdown of water usage and water balance Boiler and steam generation certificate List of raw materials with their monthly quantity (in metric tons) Third-party analysis report for wastewater analysis Requirement of Consent for Operation

Once the site construction is completed and the entrepreneur has installed all the necessary waste management and pollution control equipment according to the applicable standards, they can proceed to apply for the Consent for Operation (CFO). It is important to note that the application process takes around 30 days, so the unit should consider this timeframe when planning their application submission.

Validity of Consent for Operation (CFO) from SPCB

Projects	Validity Period
Red Category (Large, Medium, Small & Micro-scale units)	5 years
Orange Category (Large, Medium, & Small scale)	10 years
Orange Category (Micro-scale)	10 years
Green Category (Large scale)	15 Years
Green Category (Medium scale)	15 Years
Green Category (Micro & Small scale)	15 Years

How Can MLC Assist You?

End-to-End Assistance: Owing to our extensive experience of over ten years in the field of licensing and compliance...



Expert Legal Guidance: MLC provides a complete range of support services for Consent for Operation...

Best in Class Client Support: Our dedicated support team ensures that our clients are kept up to date with the latest guidelines...

Useful details to share when you enquire

- Business activity, site location and ownership details
- Existing applications, permissions and supporting records
- The registration or approval you need to discuss

TALK TO MLC

+91 77269 32023 · +91 99498 45759 | info@mlcqehs.com

H. No. 06-096/7/5, Manikya Nagar, Chintal, Quthbullapur, Medchal (Malkajgiri), Hyderabad, Telangana – 500054, India

Adapted from MLC's published service page: <https://www.mlcqehs.com/cfo.html>