

GOVERNMENT OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA
CLIMATE CHANGE FORESTRY, ENVIRONMENT
AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

Peshawar, dated the 06/08/2025.

No. SO(ENVT)CCFE&WD/1-5/2025/Audit Rules/2025---In exercise of the powers conferred by section 31 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Act, 2014, (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Act No. XXXVIII of 2014), read with clause (xiii) of sub-section (1) of section (6) thereof, the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is pleased to make the following rules, namely:

**THE KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA
ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT RULES, 2025**

1. **Short title, application and commencement.** -(1) These rules may be called the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Audit Rules, 2025.
 - (2) These rules shall be applicable to old industrial units.
 - (3) These rules shall come into force at once.
2. **Definitions.**- (1) In these rules, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context; the following expression shall have the meanings as are respectively assigned to them, that is to say:
 - (a) **“Act”** means the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Act, 2014 (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Act No. XXXVIII of 2014);
 - (b) **“Appendix”** means Appendix appended to these rules;
 - (c) **“Director-General”** means the Director-General of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Agency;
 - (d) **“Environmental Audit”** means a systematic review of activities, processes and facilities to verify adherence to environmental standards, which assesses potential non-compliance issues, recommends corrective actions and ensures that operations aligned with legal requirements.
 - (e) **“Environmental Audit Review Committee”** means the Environmental Audit review Committee constituted under rule 3 of these rules; and
 - (f) **“Old industrial unit”** means industrial units established before the commencement of the Act, mentioned in the explanation of clause (xiii) of sub section (1) of section 6 of the Act
 - (2) Words and expressions, used but not defined under these rules, shall have the same meanings as are respectively assigned to them under the Act.
3. **Environmental Audit Review Committee.** --- (1) For the purpose of review the Environmental Audit report there shall be an Environmental Audit Review Committee, which shall consist of-

- | | | |
|-----|--|----------|
| (a) | Director General of the Agency; | Chairman |
| (b) | Director of the concerned Region of the Agency; | Member |
| (c) | An officer of the Department, nominated by the Secretary of the Department. | Member |
| (d) | Senior officer of Legal Section of the Agency, nominated by the chairman of the Environmental Audit Review Committee. | Member |
| (e) | Senior officer of Environmental Impact Assessment Cell, nominated by the chairman of the Environmental Audit Review Committee. | Member |
| (f) | a representative of Industries Department, recommended by the Head of Industries Department | Member |
| (g) | a representative of the Environmental Sciences, University of Peshawar having relevant expertise; recommended by the head of Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Peshawar; and | Member |
| (h) | a representative of concerned Industrial Association, recommended by the Head of Concerned Industrial Association | Member |
| (i) | a representative of the International Non-Governmental Organization in the field of environment, nominated by the chairman of the Environmental Audit Review Committee. | Member |

(2) The Chairman of the Environmental Audit Review Committee may nominate any technical expert or representative of Government Agency or Non-Governmental Organization, possessing specialized knowledge in the relevant field, as cooped member.

(3) The Director Head Quarter shall be the Secretary of Environmental Audit Review Committee.

(4) The Environmental Audit Review Committee shall render advice to the Agency on all aspects of environmental audit .

4. Application for screening and scoping of project.--- The proponent shall file an application with the Agency, having project description or activities on attached proforma as specified in **Appendix-I** to get clear directives for screening and scoping of the project, as per rule 5 of these rules.

5. Projects requiring an Environmental Audit.---Where the project falls in the definition of old industrial unit and to be enlisted as mentioned in **Appendix -II, Appendix-III** and **Appendix-IV**, soon after coming into the force of these rules, the proponent shall file an environmental audit report to the Agency.

6. Directions for a specific project.---Where the project is an old industrial unit and does not fall within the categories of projects as mentioned in **Appendix -II, Appendix-III** and **Appendix-IV**, and the Agency is of the opinion that said project may create an environmental problem, the Agency shall direct the proponent to file an environmental audit report, for reasons to be recorded in such directions:

Provided that such directions shall not be issued without the recommendations, in writing of the Environmental Assessment Advisory Committee, constituted under Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Assessment Rules ,2021.

7. Review Fees.---The proponent shall pay, at the time of submission of an Environmental Audit report, a non-refundable review fee to the specified account of the Agency, as per rates given in part (1) Appendix-V.

8. Filing of Environmental Audit Report.--- (1) The proponent shall file ten(10)printed copies and one (1) electronic copy of an Environmental Audit Report with the Agency.

(2) Every Environmental Audit report shall be accompanied by--

(a) an application, in the form set out in **Appendix-VI**; and

(b) Original receipt of the review fee mentioned in rule 7.

9. Preliminary scrutiny.---(1) Within seven (07) working days of filing of the environmental audit report, the Agency shall,-

(a) confirm that the Environmental Audit report is complete for purposes of initiation of the review process and issue confirmation letter to the proponent; or

(b) return the Environmental audit report to the proponent for revision, clearly listing the points requiring further study.

(2) Nothing in sub-rule (1) shall prohibit the Agency from requiring the proponent to submit additional information at any stage of the review process.

10. Time period for review.--- (1) The Agency shall carry out review of the Environmental Audit within forty-five (45) working days, of issuance of confirmation of completeness under rule 9 of these rules.

(2) In order to review the environmental audit report, the Director General may place the report to Environmental Audit Review Committee.

(3) The Audit review committee shall be based on quantitative and qualitative assessment of the documents and data furnished by the proponent.

(4) The Agency may call the proponent for discussion or presentation.

11. Decision. --- (1) On completion of the review, the Environmental Audit review committee shall decide the case, based on majority of the its members, which shall be communicated to the proponent through the Agency in the form as specified in **Appendix-VII**, within forty-five (45) working days.

2. The forty-five (45) working days period for communication of decision shall commence from the date of confirmation of completeness, issued by the Agency under clause (a) of sub-rule (1) of rule 9 of these rules:

Provided that nothing in this rule shall be applicable to cases, where the delay in decision has been occasioned by the proponent or any person acting on his behalf.

- (3) The conditions in the decisions as communicated by the Agency shall be binding upon the proponent.

12. Validity Period of Decision.--- (1) The decision, on Environmental Audit report, taken by the Agency, for commencement of operational activities, shall be valid for a period of three years, commencing from the date of issuance of decision as specified in **Appendix -VII.**

(2) The proponent shall apply for renewal of the operational approval after every three (03) years through submission of environmental audit report.


- (3) The proponent will submit a renewal fee as prescribed in part-II of **Appendix -V.**

13. Entry and Inspection.--- (1) For purposes of verification of any matter relating to the review or to the conditions imposed under **Appendix-VII**, during commencement of operation of a project, the Agency shall be allowed without any hindrance to enter and inspect the project site, factory building, plant and equipment installed therein.

(2) The proponent shall ensure full cooperation at site to facilitate the inspection team and shall provide such information as may be required by the Agency.

14. Monitoring.--- (1) After decision on environmental audit report by the Agency, the proponent shall submit a report to the Agency on the fulfillment of the compliance activities of the project.

(2) After submission of compliance report, the Agency shall visit the project site for confirmation of the compliance, with reference to the conditions mentioned under Sub rule 3 of Rule 11 of these rules.

 **15. Cancellation of Audit Report.**--- (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules, if, at any time, on the basis of information or report received or inspection carried out, the Agency is of the opinion that the conditions in the decision of Environmental Audit have not been complied with, or that the information supplied by a proponent in the approved Environmental Audit report is incorrect, it shall issue notice to the proponent to show cause, within two weeks of receipt thereof, why the audit report should not be cancelled.

(2) If no reply is received or if the reply is considered unsatisfactory, the Agency may, after giving the proponent an opportunity of being heard, may cancel the environmental audit report.

(3) On cancellation of the Environmental Audit report, the proponent shall cease operation of the unit forthwith.

(4) Action, taken under this rule, shall be in addition to any other action that may be taken against the proponent under the Act or rules or any other law for the time being in force.

16. Record maintenance of environmental audit projects.--- Separate Registers to be maintained by the Agency for environmental audit report, which shall be in the form as specified in **Appendix-VIII**

APPENDIX-I
(see rule 4)

Proforma for Screening and Scoping of Project

S.No.	Particulars	Reply submitted
1	Name of the Scheme / project	
2	Proponent name, address and contact number	
3	Date of establishment of the industry /project from the proposed scheme / project	
4	Brief Machinery/Equipment used in process	
5	Production capacity	
6	Source of pollution control system	
7	Global Positioning System (GPS)Coordinates of the boundaries of the scheme / project	
8	Existing status of the project (functional, non-functional).	
9	Total cost of the scheme / project	
10	Existing Pollution Control system for (air, water, noise and any other)	
11	Status of surroundings within 500m radius (houses, schools, mosques, agricultural land, water bodies etc.)	
12	Expected positive impacts	
13	Expected negative impacts	
14	Any other documents related to environment deemed necessary by the Review Committee.	

CONCLUSION AND SCREENING DECISION

Appendix-II

[see rule 5, 6 & appendix-VIII]

Projects with Major Environmental Impacts

A. Energy

1. Over 50 MW (hydropower and coal).
2. Over 200 MW thermal power projects (other than coal).
3. Transmission lines 11 KV and above.
4. Nuclear power plants.
5. Petroleum refineries.
6. Oil and Gas Pipe lines (06 inch and above diameter) with length above 50 KM.
7. Oil and Gas production, drilling activity extraction, gathering and separation projects.
8. Bio remediation plants.

B. Manufacturing and Processing

1. Cement Plants.
2. Chemical projects;
 - (a) Calcium Carbonate 5000 tons per annum and above;
 - (b) Sodium Silicate 2000 tons per annum and above;
 - (c) Color coated film 1000 tons per annum and above;
 - (d) Poly vinyl acetate 1000 tons per annum and above;
 - (e) Phenolic resins above 2000 tons per annum; and
 - (f) Sulfuric and other acids.
3. Fertilizer plants having capacity 30,000 tons annually.
4. Sugar mills and distillery.
5. Vegetable ghee and oil mills.
6. Soft drinks/beverages with annual production above 50 million liters.
7. Industrial Estates (including export processing zones).
8. Pesticides manufacturing and formulation with total production of 500 tons per annum and above.
9. Petrochemical Complex.
10. Pyrolysis Units.
11. Paper Mills.
12. Glass Manufacturing Units.
13. Chip Boards Units/Medium Density Fiber Units.
14. Tanning and Leather Finishing Projects.
15. Steel mills and Furnaces.
16. Match Factory.
17. Cigarettes Manufacturing Factory.
18. Poultry Protein Production Units.
19. Plastic bags Manufacturing Units except secondary carrier bags.
20. Battery Manufacturing Plant.

C. Mining and mineral processing

1. Mining and Processing of coal, gold, copper and sulfur.
2. Mining, Processing major non-ferrous metals, iron and steel.
3. Commercial extraction/Mining of limestone other mineral having blasting activity.
4. Smelting plants.
5. Asphalt Plants (on permanent basis).


D. Transport

1. Airport.
2. Federal or Provincial Highways (Except maintenance, re-building or re-construction of existing metalled road).
3. Railway tracks.

E. Water Management, Dams and Irrigation

Dams and reservoirs with storage volume over 50 million cubic meters or surface area of 08 square kilometers and above.

F. Waste Disposal

- 
1. Handling storage or disposal of hazardous or toxic wastes or radioactive waste including landfill sites, and combine incineration plant.
 2. Waste disposal facilities for domestic or industrial wastes, with annual capacity of 10,000 tones and above.
 3. Waste water treatment plant for domestic or industrial effluents with annual capacity of 10,000 cubic meters and above.

G. Urban Development and Tourism

1. Land use studies and urban plans (large cities).
2. Large-scale tourism development projects with total cost more than Rs.300 million.
3. Housing schemes with above 500 Kanal for plain area and above 200 Kanal for hilly areas.
4. Residential / commercial high rise buildings / apartments from 15 storeys and above.

H. Environmentally Sensitive Areas

All projects situated in environmentally sensitive areas.

I. Other projects

1. Any other project for which filing of an EIA is required by the Agency under rule 5 of these rules.
2. Any other project likely to cause an adverse environmental effect.

Appendix-III

[see rule 5 & 6]

Projects with medium environmental impacts

A. Energy


1. Power generation 01-50 MW (hydropower and coal).
2. Thermal power generation 01-200 MW (other than coal).
3. Solar Projects having capacity more than 01 MW.
4. Transmission lines Less than 11 KV.
5. Oil and Gas pipe lines (6 inches and above dia) with length of 10-50 KM.
6. Seismic 2D/3D/Survey for Oil and Gas.
7. LPG and LNG storage.
8. Bulk Oil and Gas depot.
9. Waste to energy projects for commercial and industrial use.
10. Grid Stations.

B. Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries

1. Poultry Farms/control sheds having 15,000 sq. ft. and above covered area.
2. Fish Farms 01 Acre and above.

C. Manufacturing and processing

1. Chemicals Projects

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- (a) Calcium Carbonate below 5000 tons per annum.
 - (b) Sodium Silicate below 2000 tons per annum.
 - (c) Thinner 10,000 gallons per annum and above.
 - (d) Color coated film below 1000 tons per annum.
 - (e) Poly vinyl acetate below 1000 tons per annum.
 - (f) Phenolic resins 1000-2000 tons per annum.
 - (g) Chrome sulfate 10,000 tons per annum and above.
 - (h) Dyes manufacturing and processing.
 - (i) Sulfur black manufacturing and processing.

2. Ceramics Manufacturing Units.
3. Polyester/Viscose/polyfilament yarn.
4. Soft drinks/beverages with annual production 01-50 million liters.
5. Milk and milk based products having capacity 10,000 liters daily and above.
6. Pharmaceuticals.
7. Textile mills/ power looms/ weavings/ apparels/ acrylic/ yarn/ fiber weaving.
 - (a) Above 50 power looms;
 - (b) 15000 & above spindles; and
 - (c) Acrylic 1500 tons annually.
8. Rubber and plastic products manufacturing.
9. Paints/ varnishes factory Oil, Lubricants, Oil Reclamation, Grease and Allied Products.
10. Fruit and Vegetable Processing Units.
11. Tea packing / blending Units.
12. Steel re-rolling Mills.
13. Pesticides Manufacturing and Formulation.

14. Fertilizer Units.

D. Mining and mineral processing

1. Commercial extraction/river bed mining of clay, gravel, sand, limestone and other minerals.
2. Power Crushers/ Stone Crushers/ Crush plants/ Crush Machines.
3. Asphalt Plants (on temporary basis).

E. Transport

1. Roads/rails tunnel.
2. Dry port.


F. Water Management, Dams and Irrigation

Dams and reservoirs with storage volume 21- 50 million cubic meter or surface area less than 08 square kilometers.

G. Water supply

Water supply schemes (From river water to community's consumption).

H. Waste disposal

- 
1. Waste disposal facility for domestic or industrial wastes, with annual capacity less than 10,000 tones.
 2. Waste water treatment plant for domestic or industrial effluents with annual capacity less than 10,000 cubic meters.

I. Urban Development

1. Housing schemes with area 50-500 Kanal in plain area and 50-200 Kanal for hilly area.
2. New hospitals above 100 beds.
3. 07 to 14 Multi-storey buildings having residential and commercial setup on the total plot size more than 2000 square yards.

J. Other Projects

Any other project for which filing of an IEE is required by the Agency under rule 5 of these rules.

Appendix-IV

[see rule 5 & 6]

Project with minor environmental impacts


A. Energy

1. Hydro/Coal Power less than 01 MW.
2. Thermal Power less than 01 MW (other than coal power).
3. Solar power plants from 500 KW up to 01 MW.
4. CNG, LPG, LNG (filling and re-fuelling stations) and Petrol pumps.
5. Oil and Gas pipeline (06 inches and above dia) below 10 Km.

B. Agriculture and Livestock

1. Agricultural projects involving repacking, mixing, formulation of Agricultural products.
2. Fertilizer grinding Unit, rock phosphate or other grinding of rock material.
3. Poultry Farms/control sheds having 1500-15,000 sq. ft. covered area.
4. Dairy Farm with 40 and above buffalos/cows.
5. Cattle Farm with 100 and above goats/sheeps.

C. Manufacturing and Processing

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1. Fat Burning Units.
 2. Cosmetic Industry.
 3. Preservation and storage of animal skin.
 4. Glue manufacturing.
 5. Thinner below 10,000 gallons per annum.
 6. Phenolic resins below 1000 tons per annum.
 7. Poly Propylene mates/bags.
 8. Soap and detergent Units.
 9. Biscuits Factories.
 10. Ice Factories.
 11. Mineral water Units.
 12. Cotton/Wool processing/cotton waste processing.
 13. Paper boards.
 14. Tobacco Kilns.
 15. Block Factories.
 16. Recycling Units (Paper, Plastic, Glass, Scrap, etc.).
 17. Flour/Pulses/Rice Mills/Guar Gum Processing Mills.

D. Mining and Mineral Processing

Crushing, grinding of stone and separation processes/soapstone/marble/chips/gypsum Units/limekilns/ brick kilns/coal grinding.

E. Water Management and Irrigation

1. New Irrigation canals/ channels with length of 10 Km and above (or) serving 15,000 hectares and above.
2. Dams/reservoir with storage volume 10-20 million cubic meters.

F. Waste Disposal

Hospital incinerators.

G. Telecommunication

BTS Towers.

H. Miscellaneous

1. Slaughter Houses.
2. Vehicle Service Stations.

I. Other Projects



Any other project for which filing of GEA is required by the Agency under rule 6 these rules.

APPENDIX-V
[see rule 7 & 12 (3)]

Part-I
Review Fees

(A) <u>Projects listed in Appendix-II</u> Review Fee Rs. 200,000/-
(B) <u>Projects listed in Appendix-III</u> Review Fee Rs. 100,000/-
(C) <u>Projects listed in Appendix-IV</u> Review Fee Rs. 20,000/-

Renewal Fees

(A) <u>Projects listed in Appendix-II</u> Renewal Fee Rs. 50,000/-
(B) <u>Projects listed in Appendix-III</u> Renewal Fee Rs. 25,000/-
(C) <u>Projects listed in Appendix-IV</u> Renewal Fee Rs. 5,000/-

APPENDIX-VI
[see rule 8 (2) (a)]
Application Form

1. Name and Address of Proponent -----
2. Date of establishment of the unit. -----
- a. Phone: -----
- b. Fax: -----
- c. Telex: -----
- 3 Description of project -----
- 4 Location of project and Global Positioning System (GPS
Coordinates/Geographical information system (GIS) map: -----
- 4. Objectives of Project: -----
- 5 Environmental Audit report attached? Yes/No
- 6 Detail;’ of machinery/equipment & pollution control system
- 7 Existing land use Land
Requirement

Is basic sites data (Only
available, or has it been tick yes if the data
measured? is reported in the
audit report)

8		Meteorology (including rainfall)	<u>Available</u> Yes/No	<u>Measured</u> Yes/No
		Ambient air quality	Yes/No	Yes/No
		Ambient Water Quality	Yes/No	Yes/No
		Ground Water quality	Yes/No	Yes/No
9	Have estimates of the following been reported	Water balance	<u>Measured</u> Yes/No	<u>Reported</u> Yes/No
		Solid waste disposal	Yes/No	Yes/No
		Liquid waste treatment	Yes/No	Yes/No
10	Source of power		Power Requirement	
11	Labour force (number)	Construction: Operation:		
12	Detail of analysis report carried out			

Verification: I do solemnly affirm and declare that the information given above and contained in the attached Environmental Audit Report is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date_____

Signature, name and
Designation of proponent
(with official stamp/seal)

APPENDIX-VII

[see rule 11(1), 12(1), & 13(1)]

Decision on Environmental Audit

1. Name and address of proponent _____

2. Description of project _____
3. Location of Project and Global Positioning System(GPS)
Coordinates/Geographic Information System(GIS)map. _____
4. Date of filing of Environmental Audit (EA) _____
5. After careful review of the Environmental Audit(EA), and all comments
thereon, the Agency has decided
- (a) to accord approval of audit report, subject to the following conditions: _____

- or
- (b) that the proponent should re-submit an EA with the
following modifications-

- or
- (c) to reject the Environmental Audit(EA) report of the project, being
contrary to environmental objectives, for the following reasons:

[Delete (a)/(b)/(c), whichever is inapplicable]

Dated _____ Tracking No. ____

Director-General Agency (with official stamp/seal)

APPENDIX-VIII

[See Rule 16]

Form for Environmental Audit projects Record Maintenance

S. No. 1	Description 2	Relevant Provisions 3
1.	Tracking number	
2.	Category type (as per Appendixes II, III and IV)	
3.	Name of proponent	
4.	Name and designation of contact person	
5.	Description of project	
6.	Location of project and GPS Coordinates/GIS map	
7.	Date of receipt of EA	
8.	Approval granted (Yes/No) (Copy of approval annexed)	
9.	Date of approval granted or refused	
10.	Date of Undertaking	
11.	Dates of filing of monitoring reports	
12.	Date of cancellation, if applicable	
13.	Date of renewal of operational approval	

--Sd--

**Secretary to Government of
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
Forestry, Environment & Wildlife Department.**