

“AMMONIA GAS INCREASED IN AMBIENT AIR BY INSTALLATION OF SNCR SYSTEM AT HEIDELBERG CEMENT INDIA LIMITED (HCIL),

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ABSTRACT

India is the second-largest producer of cement in the world, behind only China. All around India, cement factories may be found. To reduce NOx emissions from Cement Kiln stacks, certain Indian Cement Industries have used SNCR systems. Only the reaction temperature range known as the "SNCR temperature window of 870-1090°C" yields optimal SNCR efficiency. A water and molecular nitrogen product is formed when NH₃ reacts with NOx. Because ammonia is more likely to escape from the process at temperatures above 700 degrees Celsius and less likely to do so at lower ones, it is oxidised as NOx at higher ones. During loading and unloading of Ammonia tankers and the emission of nonreacted ammonia from cement kiln stacks, ammonia is released into the ambient air. This ammonia gas is raising the nearby environment's concentration of ambient ammonia.

Keywords: *Cement Industries, Selective Non Catalytic Reduction (SNCR), Ammonia (NH₃), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC), Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)*

INTRODUCTION

According to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MOEF&CC), the NOx emission limits for cement plants in India are 600/800/1000 mg/Nm³ dependent on the technology employed in the plant (MOEFCC Notification, 2016). Selective

Noncatalytic Reduction (SNCR), which uses ammonia to reduce NO_x emissions, has been implemented by several cement factories in India in order to fulfil Indian emission limits. During loading and unloading and through the kiln stacks, ammonia is released into the ambient air. It is impossible for NH₃ gas to settle in low-lying areas because it is lighter than air. NH₃ gas becomes ammonia vapours when it combines with moisture, however, and these vapours are heavier than air (The Fact about Ammonia, 2004).

Research is being conducted in order to determine the real rise in ammonia content in ambient air as a result of ammonia emissions from kiln stacks and the role they play in this process.

I. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

NH₃ is a colourless, pungent-smelling gas that may corrode metal and other metal alloys. More and more people are concerned about how ammonia (NH₃) is affecting the quality of the air and the health of those who breathe it (Xu, R.T. et al, 2018). There are two basic forms of environmental harm that may be caused by Ammonia gas if it is deposited in water and soils (Agriculture - ammonia emission, 2017). Many atmospheric processes depend on ammonia. Ammonia (NH₃) is a significant contaminant that contributes to a number of the world's most pressing environmental issues (Wu ShiangYuh et al., 2008; Sun et al., 2016; Skjth, 2012). A interaction in the atmosphere with acidic substances results in the deposition of ammonia as a gas or as ammonium salts, which may be used to enrich soils deficient in nutrients, such as heath land, with nitrogen and so alter the vegetation that grows there. In aerosols, ammonium ions can travel for long distances before depositing on the ground and contributing to acid rain (Pain Brian Jarvis Steve, 1999). Ammonia emissions are a major factor in a number of well-known environmental problems. Nitrogen, especially ammonia, may create nutritional imbalances and eutrophication in ecosystems when deposited in large quantities (Pinder R.W. et al, 2008).

Because it is the first component to produce aerosols in the atmosphere, ammonia pollutes the cardiovascular and respiratory systems of humans, reduces visibility, and causes regional haze across Asia (Pinder et al., 2007; Seinfeld & Pandis, 1998). Haze days in China are caused by secondary inorganic aerosols generated by NH₃ (Fu et al., 2015).

Because surplus NH_4^+ returns to aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems as the quantity of ammonia in the atmosphere increases, it causes problems for the global nitrogen and carbon cycles.

To manufacture ammonia, an important industrial intermediary for nitrogen fertilisers, almost 100 million metric tonnes of atmospheric nitrogen are removed from the air each year. 12% of the world's energy usage and 35% of the world's natural gas production are attributed to Haber-Bosch (Baltrusaitis Jonas, 2017). Ammonia emissions from agricultural systems are associated with an increase in reactive nitrogen (N) in southern Asia (SA), where roughly 60 percent of the world's population lives, raising concerns about the impact on air quality and human health (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2016).

In addition to causing ammonia leaks, ammonium bisulphate and other ammonium salts may cause problems such as plugging and corrosion of the air heater and other downstream components, the formation of a white ammonium chloride plume above the stack, and the detection of an ammonia odour around the plant (White Paper, ICAC, 2008).

II. MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY

A. Monitoring Location

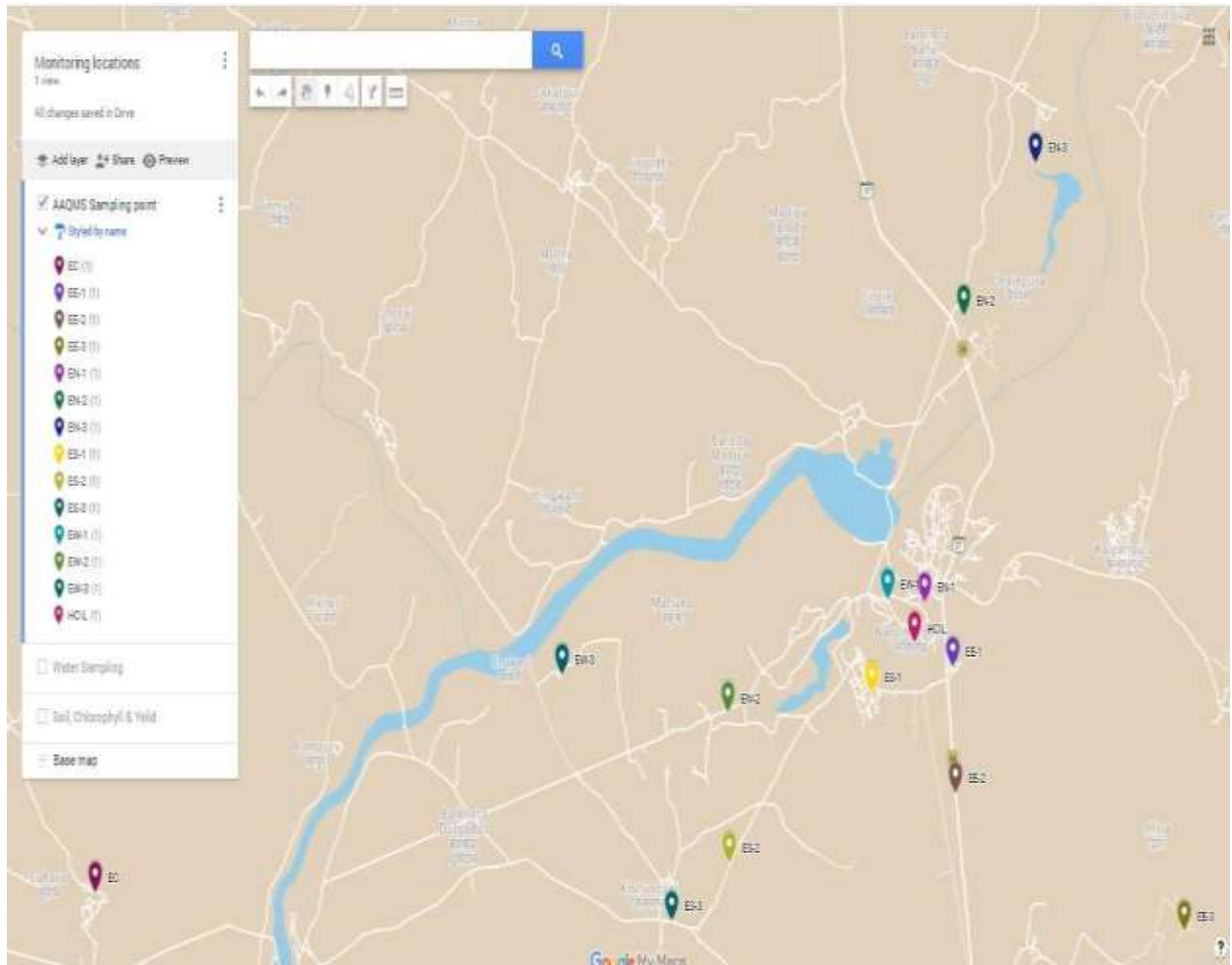
HeidelbergCement India Limited (HCIL), a cement mill in the hamlet of Narsingarh in the district of Damoh in Madhya Pradesh, has been chosen to monitor ambient air concentrations of ammonia gas.



Fig-1: HCIL, Narsingarh Plant Location on India Map & Plant Snap

We have selected three sampling points each in the four directions of the plant Reference point Line-I (Pre-heater) of HCIL, Narsingarh Plant first within 1 Km, second within 1 to 3 Km and third within 3 to 5 Km distance and set a Controlled area at approximately 10 Km far from Plant in upwind direction for ambient air quality monitoring and analysis (West). This means that there are now 13 integers in total for the number of sample points.

I've categorised these addresses as EE for east, including EE-1 (one kilometre), EE-2 (1 to 3 kilometres), and EE-3 (three to five kilometres) (3 to 5 Km) Each direction has its own set of coordinates: EW-1 (1 Km), EN-1 (1 Km), EN-2 (1 to 3 Km), and EN-3 (3 to 5 Km). ES-1 (1 Km), ES-1 (1-3 Km), and ES-2 (1-3) are the coordinates for the control area, and EC is the code for the control area.



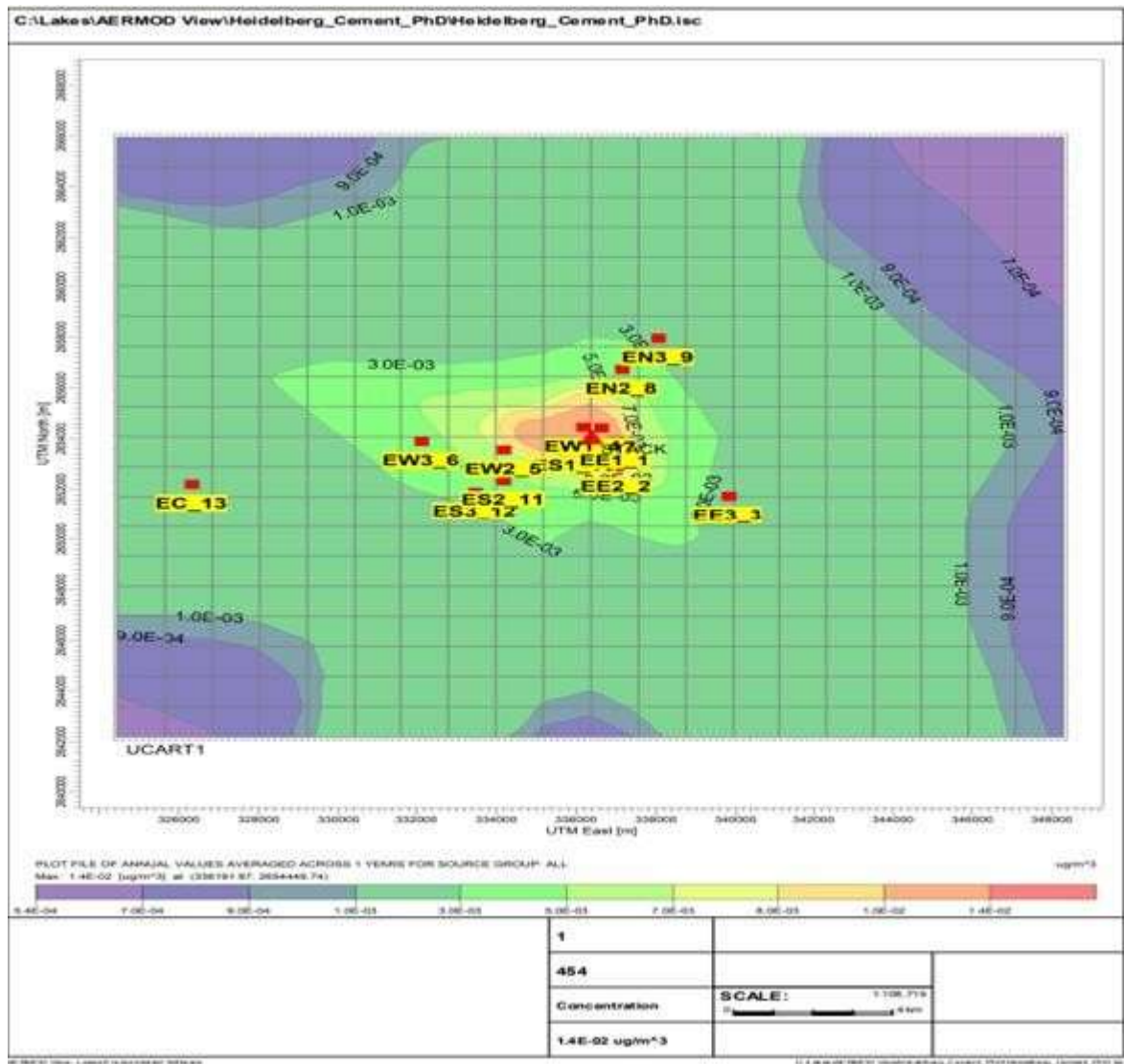
Quality Monitoring Stations near HCIL, Narsingarh marked on Google Map

B. Ammonia sampling & analysis

In order to collect data, we utilised the Fine Dust Sampler (FDS) with gaseous attachment and CPCB-NAAQS Guidelines, 2013 Manual Volume – 1 for sampling. Sulphuric acid is used to collect ammonia gas from the environment by bubbling it through an ammonium salt solution, and the ammonium sulphate is then analysed for ammonia in the ambient air using the Indophenol Method. Sodium hypochlorite and phenol react to generate indophenols, a blue colour, from ammonium sulphate produced in the sample. It is possible to speed up the process by using sodium nitroprusside as a catalyst in the mix.

C. Analysis of Ammonia increased in Ambient air through data modeling

Clinkrisation Line-III at Narsingarh is a newer line that uses coal and Pet coke as



Ammonia distribution in nearby area of HCIL, Narsingarh through datamodelling for Annual basis in year 2020

IV. RESULT DISCUSSION& CONCLUSION

Ammonia samples were collected and analysed during the winter, summer, and rainy seasons of the 2020-21 year cycle, which ran from August to July of that year. NH₃ concentrations ranged from 8.8 to 9.5 g/m³ in the controlled region, with an average of 9.2 g/m³. In contrast, NH₃ measurements in other regions ranged from 9.8 to 17.5 g/m³, with a mean value of 12.8 g/m³. We used data modelling to examine the NH₃ distribution in a five-kilometer radius surrounding the HCIL Narsingarh Plant in relation to the Controlled area and estimate the real quantity of Ammonia created by the Plant's contribution.

Only 0.073 g/m³ of ammonia was added to the ambient air on a 24-hour basis and 0.014 on a yearly basis, according to data modelling. Ammonia gas concentrations in ambient air discharged from kiln stacks are found to rise just little as a result of this study.

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