

GUIDE

PCB Consent Renewal Guide

What CTE and CTO cover, when to renew, and how to avoid the most common delays.

What Are CTE and CTO?

Consent to Establish (CTE) is granted before a unit is set up or expanded, confirming the proposed operations meet pollution control requirements. Consent to Operate (CTO) is the ongoing operating licence, issued once the unit is operational, and must be renewed periodically based on your category and state PCB norms.

When to Start the Renewal Process

Most State Pollution Control Boards expect a renewal application well before the existing consent expires — commonly 60 to 120 days, depending on the state and category. Starting late is one of the most common reasons for a lapse in valid consent, which can expose a unit to penalties or a stop-operations notice.

Documents Typically Required

- Previous consent order and compliance report
- Updated production and effluent / emission details
- Consent fee payment challan
- Hazardous waste authorisation status, if applicable
- Board-specific application form and undertakings

A Typical Renewal Process

1. Compile current operating and compliance data.
2. Submit the renewal application through the state PCB portal.
3. Respond to any queries or site-inspection observations.
4. Pay applicable fees and obtain the renewed consent order.
5. File the renewed consent in your environmental register.

Common Reasons for Delay or Rejection

- Application submitted after the previous consent has already expired
- Mismatch between actual production/operations and what was originally approved
- Outstanding compliance observations from a previous inspection
- Incomplete hazardous waste or effluent treatment documentation

Next Steps

If you are unsure of your renewal window or your current standing with the PCB, Sustain-Gen's free Compliance Health Check gives you a preliminary read on where you stand, along with recommended next steps.