

Essequibo Quarry Inc. (Project Summary)



Proposed Project site at

Tract 'X' Being Portion of Plot 'B' Look Out, East Bank Essequibo

Location and Description of Project

The project area is located at Tract 'X' Being Portion of Plot 'B' Look Out, East Bank Essequibo containing an area of 1.538 acres of land. Access to the site can be gained via Parika access road and turning left after Narine Lall Enterprise (Timber dealers). The surrounding area of the project is sparsely populated with the closest residents located approximately 100 meters south of the project, which includes approximately 10 to 15 houses. While the Sea Dam & Essequibo River is located approximately 50 meters east of the facility, and empty vegetation seeming to belong to the grass type *Cynodon dactylon* (Bermuda grass) from the physical appearance, located immediately north and west of the project. The developers' primary business objective is the stockpiling of quarriable materials including sand, loam, stone and laterite. Quarry Materials and Sand will be excavated from Lakeram Harridat Quarry within Block Number: H-1040/MP/000/2020 and transported to the storage area via the two thousand (2000) ton barge. The front-end loaders and excavator would then be used to removed quarry materials and sand from barge and stock pile separately for sale. The operations are geared to fulfill the increasing demands for such constructional material in the local market.

Operation and Employment and HSE

The company plans to stock pile on site one or two barge loads of sand, loam and laterite. However, this may increase depending on demand from customers.

At the project site the following facilities will be constructed (dimensions to be determined and provided in an approved site plan):

- Generator Room
- Equipment Bond
- Fuel Storage Bond
- Workers Quarters
- Toilet Facilities
- Office
- Servicing Bay
- Security Hut

The list of equipment for utilization on the project site:

- 950 Cat Loaders
- 2 KB Excavator
- generator)
- 1200-ton Barge
- Dump Trucks
- Tug
- Bulldozer

Working hours are from 08:00 h to 17:00 h from Monday to Saturday. A total of eight (8) workers will be employed but is expected to increase over the years. No workers would be living on site. Personal Protective gears will be provided to all employees. These are inclusive of safety boots, helmets, earmuffs and visibility vest, etc. as per job description of each employee. First Aid Kit will also be on site along with a trained personal in the event of an accident.

Toilet facility entails two flush toilets (1 male and 1 female) connected to septic tank system. The storage site on completion will be equipped with ten (10) fire extinguishers and ten (10) sand buckets located at strategic points throughout the site. No smoking, safety and danger signs will be placed throughout the site.

Fuel on site would be stored in metal tanks housed within concrete bund. Fuel includes: 1892.71 Liters (500 gallons) diesel dispensed by pump attached to tank. The waste oil generated will be stored in drums in a concrete storage bund and be disposed by Puran Brother Disposal Services. Domestic waste generated at the site will be collected in garbage bins located around the site. The bins will be placed at specific locations throughout the facility and will filled, it will be emptied by Puran Brother Disposal Services. Additionally, two categories of effluent are expected to be generated from the project, these are: sewage and grey water. Both types of effluent will be contained in a septic tank system. No further treatment is required given effluent will undergo natural decomposition.

Potential Impacts

Dust Nuisance – During the operational phase of the project (storage of quarry materials and sand), fugitive dust will be emitted from the stockpiles of the materials.

Noise and vibrations - from the project will be emitted from the construction and operational activities such as the movement of heavy-duty vehicles that will be loading, offloading, and stacking of quarry materials and sand, along with the use of a generator.

Flooding- The eastern boundary of the proposed project site is bordered by the Essequibo River, and a low sea wall separates the two. Even though the area is appropriately drained if there is high tide the area will be susceptible to flooding. However, the developer has assured the Officers that his sea defenses will reduce the risk of flooding.

Surface Water - The runoff from the stockpile may flow into the immediate drainage system, which might alter the water quality and hence have an effect on the surface water. This can happen during periods of high rainfall. In addition, given that fuel will be kept on-site, there is a possibility that a leak might occur, resulting in fuel entering the waterways and lowering the quality of the water.

Mitigation measures

Dust Nuisance - The stockpile will be regularly water (3 to 4 times weekly) as to prevent dust particles in the air and covered with tarpaulin.

Surface Water/Flooding - As far as possible, drainage will follow existing drainage lines with vegetation along the drainage lines retained. Additionally, sedimentation traps will be installed in the drains surrounding the project area to trap free particles contained within effluent generated from surface runoff (storm water).

Noise Nuisance - Operations will not take place during the nighttime hours. The operation hours of the Project are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Conclusion

The impacts from the proposed storage facility would be considered to be low and minimal due to the scale and nature of the proposed activity; which would be confined to the Project Area. It is not envisioned that any significant environmental impacts will occur once mitigation measures outlined in this summary are implemented and best management practices suggested by the Environmental Protection Agency are implemented. In addition, we will promote a safe working environment via standard operating procedures and provide safety training for all workers. Pollution prevention will also be an utmost priority as there will be strict adherence to the defined guidelines.