



Environmental Protection Agency Notice to the Public

In accordance with **Section 11(2) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, Laws of Guyana**, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has screened the application for the issuance of an Environmental Authorization for the following proposed project:

Bunkering Operation

- ***Tidewater Marine International Inc. (Handin Tide) – to be operated within Guyana’s Waters inclusive of the EEZ.***

Pursuant to **Section 11 (2) of the Environmental Protection Act**, the EPA has determined that the proposed project/activity will not significantly affect the environment and is, therefore, exempt from the requirement to conduct an **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)**. However, the projects will be required to submit an **Environmental Management Plan (EMP)**.

The reasons for this decision include:

- The impact of any fuel spills will not be significant, considering the quantity of fuel to be stored and transported. The vessel has fire safety equipment, spill containment, and clean-up kits;
- The vessel is equipped with oil spill and pollution preparedness, prevention and response mechanisms in conformity with standards established by MARPOL 73 /78 and a Hazardous Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) for offshore bunkering activities. The vessel also has a Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (SOPEP) to respond to spills.
- The vessel has double-hulled tanks onboard, which protects against any possible spills in the event of a collision.
- The vessels have obtained a permit to operate in Guyana Waters within the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) from the Maritime Administrative Department (MARAD). MARAD ensures that the vessel complies with applicable IMO requirements and is equipped with the needed fuel spill and pollution prevention and/or preparedness procedures set out by MARPOL 73/78.



Further details relevant to this decision are available via the following link on the EPA's website:

Project Summaries Tab:

<https://epaguyana.org/download/mv.handin-tide-project-summary/>

Any person who may be affected by the proposed projects may lodge an appeal against the Agency's decision (**EIA not required**) within thirty (30) days of the publication of this Notice. *Appeals against the EPA's decision should be addressed to:*

The Chairman
The Environmental Assessment Board
eabguyana21@gmail.com
Website: www.epaguyana.org