



Environmental Protection Agency

Notice to the Public

Pursuant to Section 11(2) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) screened the application for the grant of an environmental permit for the following proposed project:

1. *Ming Chen – Sand Mining –Plantation Elizabeth, Demerara River, Region 4.*

The EPA has determined that this project will not significantly affect the environment, and is therefore exempt from the requirement to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The reasons for this decision include:

1. Impacts from this project have been characterized to be of medium to low significance since it is located far from environmentally sensitive areas, protected zones or critical habitats, meaning that it avoids threatening high- conservation- value ecosystems. The project area consists of mostly resilient secondary vegetation rather than pristine forest. This vegetation has a high capacity for natural recovery and will be restored progressively.
2. Impacts from noise generated by the project will be low, periodic, and confined to the production activities area. By targeting unconsolidated sand, the operation completely avoids high impact noise and vibrations, relying solely on conventional earth moving machinery during the daytime.
3. Air quality impacts will be of medium significance and localized, i.e., limited to the confines of the immediate project area. Given that the operation is limited to mechanical excavation of sand without chemical processing or thermal treatment, emissions are strictly localized, non- toxic fugitive dust. Dust emissions will be managed by standard dampening measures and covering haul trucks with tarpaulin. Furthermore, occupational inhalation risks will be directly controlled by the use of PPE.
4. Water quality will not be significantly impacted because the operation relies on mechanical excavation without chemical processing and there is no toxic industrial effluent discharge. Potential impacts are limited to localized stormwater runoff and sediment erosion which will be controlled by maintaining the natural draining in the area, stabilizing the slopes and using vegetation to protect surface soils.



5. The project includes a structured, progressive rehabilitation plan. Active mining areas will be progressively backfilled, regraded and replanted, turning what would be open pits into stable landforms primed for future productive reuse.

Please be advised that this decision is in no way an indication that this project is approved.

The reasons for our decision are available at the following links on our website:

Project Summary Tab

<https://epaguyana.org/download/ly-project-summary/>

The Chairman

The Environmental Assessment Board

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