



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

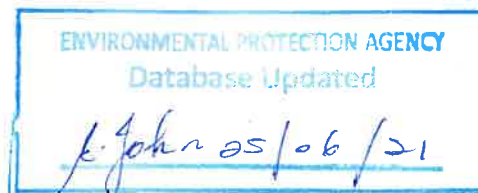
Ganges Street, Sophia,
Georgetown, GUYANA
Tel.: (592) 225-0506
Fax: (592) 225-5481
Email: epa@epaguyana.org
Website: <http://www.epaguyana.org>

Operation Permit

Issued under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

Reference No	20210112-JWPSF
Fee:	Medium (C2) - US\$800 per year
Fee Paid:	US\$4000: Five (5) Years (June, 2021 - May, 2026)

Addressee(s): Mr. Junyu Wu,
Director,
Grand East Inc.
Parcel 75, Block XXIV
Garden of Eden
East Bank Demerara.



Activity: Fish and Shrimp Processing Facility

Grand East Inc., hereinafter referred to as the "Permit Holder", is hereby authorised in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000, to operate a Fish and Shrimp Processing Facility, located at Parcel 75 Block XXIX Garden of Eden, East Bank Demerara hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in the manner indicated in the Application submitted on January 12 2021, the approved Environmental Management Plan, 2020 and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, existing and/or forthcoming regulations made under the said Environmental Protection Act and/or any other applicable laws, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

The Permit Holder, His Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractors shall comply with the following Terms and Conditions for Operation:

1.0 OPERATION

- 1.1 Notify the Agency in writing and obtain its approval for **ANY** proposed changes to the operation **at least fourteen (14) days** prior to making the change. The notification shall contain a **description of the proposed change in operation**. It is not necessary to make such a notification if **an application to vary** this Permit has been made and the application contains a description of the proposed

change. In this condition '**change in operation**' means a change in the nature or functioning, or an extension, or any additional installation, which may have consequences for the environment. Changes to operation may include but not be limited to the following:

- a) Changes in construction, structure, or layout of the facility, plant or building;
 - b) Installation of new and/or changes to equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility or operation;
 - c) Any technology used or installed at the facility from which effluent maintains good house-keeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of the surroundings are maintained at all times; or
 - d) Any other variance prescribed by Regulation 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations
- 1.2 Ensure that employees are equipped with the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE's) relevant to employee's duties during operating hours.
- 1.3 Maintain good house-keeping, sanitary and hygienic practices, and improvement in the aesthetic quality of the surroundings at all times.
- 1.4 Burning of Waste generated on site is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**.
- 1.5 Practice integrated pest control management. If pesticides are required, ensure that all pest control applications are conducted either by a Pest Control Operator (PCO) who is registered and certified by Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Control Board (PTCCB) or an employee of the Processing Facility who is certified by the PTCCB as a pest control operative. Please note that if the employee is selected as the pest control operative then the Fish processing plant should be licensed to conduct the pest control activity. In the case of an employee as a pest control operative, the following steps should be adhered to:
- 1.5.1 Ensure the pest control operative is equipped with personal protective equipment according to the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) during all pesticide applications including baiting, spraying and rinsing operation.
 - 1.5.2 Use only pesticides approved for use in Guyana by the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Board (PTCCB). Pesticides should be mixed in accordance with their label directions.

2.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 2.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000**.

- 2.2 Not discharge untreated waste water directly into the drains. Installed wastewater treatment system at the facility should be functional at all times during the operation of facility.
- 2.3 Ensure that discharges into the environment are in accordance with the *Guyana National Bureau of Standards Interim Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment and the IFC Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines* and within the allowable limits for a Seafood Processing Facility:
- pH 5.0-9.0;
 - Temperature < 40 °C;
 - Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 50 mg/L;
 - Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD <50 mg/L);
 - Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD <250 mg/L);
 - Oil and Grease < 10 mg/L;
 - Total Nitrogen (< 10 mg/L)
 - Total Phosphorous (<2 mg/L);
 - Total Chlorine (<0.2 mg/L);
 - Trihalomethanes (100 mg/L) and
 - Total Coliform (400/MPN/100 ml).
- 2.4 Monitor the parameters listed in condition 2.3 on a bi-annual basis (once in the rainy season and once in the dry season) at the same point(s) of discharge used in the initial (baseline) water quality analysis report. Submit the results to the Agency on a bi-annual basis and as a component within the Environmental Annual report required in condition 8.6.
- 2.5 Ensure that the drainage system is kept free of debris and/ or vegetation. Regular cleaning of the drainage network and the immediate environment must be conducted.
- 2.6 Equip all drainage outlet systems, including floor drains, with grids and screens and/or traps to reduce the amount suspended solids discharged in effluent.
- 2.7 Install a soak-away system within three (3) months of issuance of this permit. All effluent discharged from installed treatment system should be directed to this soak-away system.
- 2.8 Monitor the daily consumption of water and provide the data to the EPA as a component of the Annual Environmental Report required in condition 8.6.
- 2.9 Promote the conservation of water resources by minimizing water consumed and reusing where possible.

- 2.10 Choose cleaning agents that do not have adverse impacts on water quality and the environment. Optimize their use through correct dosage and application.
- 2.11 At all times, employ reasonable and practical measures to eliminate or reduce mal-odours that may emanate from the operation.

3.0 AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000.**
- 3.2 Reduce the stock of waste, and by-products and store them for short periods of time only in a cold, closed, well-ventilated place to eliminate or reduce mal-odour that may emanate from the operation.
- 3.3 Keep all working and storage areas clean, empty and clean fat traps on a regular basis and cover all wastewater drains to reduce the escape of foul odours.

4.0 NOISE ABATEMENT

- 4.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000.**
- 4.2 Comply with Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment*. Sound levels from noise-making devices should not exceed the limits below, at a distance of 15 metres (50 ft) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.

Residential Limits: **75 dB** during the daytime (06:00 h - 18:00 h)
 60 dB during the night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h)

- 4.3 Ensure all significant noise-producing equipment, such as generators, are equipped with appropriate silencers or mufflers and/or are enclosed in suitable acoustic enclosures where necessary, to reduce noise levels impacting the surrounding environment to achieve compliance with Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) requirement.

5.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 In accordance with the Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013, provide covered garbage receptacles for domestic waste at strategic locations at the facility which should be emptied, cleaned and maintained. Waste should be disposed of at an authorised solid waste disposal facility.
- 5.2 Promote waste minimization and the reduction and/or recycling of waste materials and other suitable materials where practical.

- 5.3 Maintain a waste management register of all waste generated by the operation. Information must include, but is not limited to type of waste generated, quantity of each type generated (in kg/tons) and method/s of storage, treatment and disposal for waste generated. This information must be submitted in the Annual Report required in condition 8.6.
- 5.4 Ensure that all organic solid wastes emanating from the fish and shrimp processing are collected and stored in covered and leak-proof containers. Waste should be disposed of on a daily basis.
- 5.5 Refrain from dumping seafood waste into the surrounding waterway. Waste should be disposed of at the Haags Bosch Landfill, and/or given to farmers. If waste cannot be disposed of on the same day, it should be frozen until such time that it can be properly disposed of.
- 5.6 Use dry cleaning techniques where possible, by scraping equipment before cleaning, pre-cleaning with air guns and cleaning floor spills with squeegees.
- 5.7 Maintain a septic system on site at all times. The septic tank should not be located within 1.5 m of a building or property boundary and should be accessible for cleaning and de-sludging. Any modification to the Septic tanks must be in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) Code of Practice for the Design and Construction of Septic Tanks and Associated Secondary Treatment and Disposal Systems.

6.0 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/WASTES MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000**.
- 6.2 Prepare and submit to the Agency no later than forty-five (45) days after the end of the operating year, a report relating to the activities for the previous year. The report shall include:
- The name, location and type of facility.
 - Types and quantities (in metric units) of hazardous waste generated.
 - Manner of storage, use, any applied treatment standards/methods and disposal of these substances.
 - Data concerning off-site shipments of waste, i.e. local disposal facility utilised, country to which hazardous waste is shipped, purpose of shipment and amount of waste shipped.
 - A summary of any accidents that may have occurred and any action taken.
 - Any waste minimisation efforts undertaken by your facility for hazardous material/waste.
 - Any other matter the Agency may require.

The Agency considers all materials listed in Schedule I and II of the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Wastes Management) Regulations, 2000, to be hazardous. Please see attached list of hazardous wastes to be controlled and reporting form.

- 6.3 There shall be no release of any pollutants (i.e. fuel, waste oil, wood preservatives) to ground water or soil from the permitted installation. Any accidental release of pollutants to soil and ground water must be recorded and reported **within twenty-four (24) hours** to the Agency for further investigation.
- 6.4 Take the necessary precautionary measures such as the use of leak-proof and tightly closed containers during the transport of fuel to the operation. Appropriate measures should also be taken during the handling and use of all Hazardous Wastes at the Seafood Processing Plant.
- 6.5 Store waste oil in tightly covered drums or barrels to avoid spillage. It is an offence to drain fuel/lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground, in drains or water ways.
- 6.6 Promote the reuse of waste oil, for example, as lubricant for equipment, where practical.
- 6.7 Waste oils, used batteries, oily rags, filters and oil containers must be appropriately labelled, and stored in a containment bund with an impervious surface until such time for reuse or sale to an authorised dealer.
- 6.8 Ensure that an appropriate spill containment kit is located onsite. The kit should contain absorbent materials to absorb spilt oil and/or other liquids.

7.0 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 Provide adequate fire protection measures, such as, fire extinguishers and sand buckets in accordance with the Guyana Fire Service approval.
- 7.2 Ensure the Fire Safety Certificate is renewed yearly and all firefighting equipment are maintained and serviced regularly. The Fire Safety Certificate should be submitted to Officers upon request during Compliance Inspections and in the **Annual Report**, required in condition 8.3.

8.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING & REPORTING

- 8.1 Comply with any lawful directions given by the EPA from time-to-time in furtherance of the implementation of any international or other obligation for the environmental protection of Guyana.
- 8.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Operation Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.

- 8.3 Submit to the EPA **Environmental Annual Report** on the status of the project, progress of the implementation of the monitoring activities and compliance with the conditions contained herein by **March 31** every year.
- 8.4 Conform to all terms and conditions under which this Operation Permit is granted. The Permit Holder, His Agents, and/or Sub-contractors shall be liable for any loss or damage which arises from the project as a result of the activities attributable to the project or breach of any term or condition of this Permit.
- 8.5 Inform the Agency prior to or **within thirty (30) days** of any change of name or ownership of the operation.
- 8.6 Notify the Agency **within twenty-one (21) days** in event of death, bankruptcy, liquidation or receivership of the Permit Holders or if the Company becomes a party to an amalgamation.
- 8.7 Notify the EPA **within one (1) hour** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies such as a sudden onset disaster, accident, natural, technological or human induced factors that cause or threaten to cause severe environmental damage as well as harm to human health or livelihood.
- 8.8 Report to the Agency any non-compliance with the Operation Permit as follows:
 - 8.8.1 Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Permit Holder becomes aware of the non-compliance, the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.
 - 8.8.2 Within **seventy-two (72) hours**, submit to the Agency a written report containing a description of the non-compliance, its cause and the period of non-compliance including exact dates and time.
 - 8.8.3 Submit a report to the Agency indicating the reasons and the anticipated time it is expected to continue if the non-compliance has not been corrected.

9.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 9.1 The EPA reserves the right to conduct regular inspections of the Permit Holder's operation as part of its monitoring and enforcement requirements under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000.
- 9.2 The EPA reserves the right to review and/or amend the conditions and fees attached to this Permit, which also includes the review and/or amendment of Permit Fees in consideration of any changes in fee structure as determined by the Agency for projects of this nature.

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- 9.3 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 9.4 The Permit Holder, His Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractor shall at all times, allow entry to the Permitted facility to any Officer designated by the EPA for the purposes of conducting inspections or any other legitimate business of the Agency. Pursuant to Section 38 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, it is an offence to assault, obstruct or hinder an authorised person in the execution of his/her duty under the said Act or its Regulations and the Permit Holder shall be liable to penalties prescribed under paragraph (c) of the Fifth Schedule for doing so.
- 9.5 This Operation Permit is not the final consent; all relevant permissions should be obtained and maintained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.
- 9.6 The Permit Holder, his Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractors shall be strictly jointly and severally liable as follows:
- a. For any activity that causes, or is likely to cause pollution of the environment, unless all reasonable and practicable measures were taken to prevent or minimise any resulting adverse effect, in accordance with Section 19(1)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
 - b. For any activity which results in the discharge, release or entry into the environment of any contaminant in any amount, concentration or level in excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by this Permit, in accordance with Section 19(1)(b) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05 Laws of Guyana.
 - c. The discharge or release of contaminants, such as sludge, wastewater, hydraulic fluids, lubricants, fuel, chemicals, hazardous materials or other wastes relative to the Project, which are not regulated herein, or permitted to be discharged herein, are strictly prohibited. Any such discharge or release shall be deemed a violation of Section 19(1)(a) and/or Section 19(1)(b) of the Environmental Protection Act.
 - d. For the compensation of any Party who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the project. (s.19(3)(e)) Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
 - e. For any material or serious environmental harm caused by pollution of the environment intentionally or recklessly in accordance with section 39 (1), (2), (3) and (4) of the Environmental Protection Act, 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

W.S. 

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- f. Any gross negligence or willful misconduct resulting in serious risk, or adverse effects to the marine environment, biodiversity, protected species and natural habitat with respect to any release or discharge, spill, contaminant fluids, oil, or lubricants from any facilities permitted under this project.
 - g. For the payment of all costs and expenses related to the assessment of damage and investigations required, as result of any pollution incidents attributable or likely to be attributable to the activity for which this Permit has been issued.
- 9.7 The Agency (EPA) shall notify the Permit Holder immediately of any written claim or notice sent by any complainant seeking loss or damage for negligence as a result of the Permit Holder lack of due care and diligence.
- 9.8 Where it appears to the Agency that the Permit Holder is engaged in any activity that may pose serious threat to natural resources or serious pollution of the environment or any damage to public health, the EPA may issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice Order to immediately cease the offending activity in accordance with Section 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 9.9 Should the Permit Holder contravene or is likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency (EPA) may serve on him an Enforcement Notice in accordance with Section 26 of the EP Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 9.10 This Operation Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein **June, 2021 to May, 2026**. This Operation Permit shall remain valid until **May 31, 2026**, unless otherwise modified, cancelled, suspended or revoked in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000.
- 9.11 This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed *Application Form for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation* to the Agency at least six months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **October 31, 2025**.
- 9.12 Any late submission of renewal application after the specified date as stated above, shall require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to renewal fee, a late penalty fee (accruing at the time such obligation was first owed for renewal) at a rate of **two thousand dollars (GY\$2000.00) per day for every business day late**, until such renewal application is submitted to the Agency, without prejudice to any other rights of the Permit Holder in connection therewith.
- 9.13 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to penalties prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000, including civil penalties and injunctive relief.

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Signed by  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Ms. Sharifah Razack
Executive Director (a.g)

Date 2021.06.18

I hereby accept the above Terms and Conditions upon which this Operation Permit is granted and agree to abide by the Environmental Protection Act, Cap.20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000, and any forthcoming regulations and standards made under this Act.

NAME	HAHEEDA JAILABANSUE
DESIGNATION	ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER
SIGNATURE	 FOR DIRECTOR
DATE	21 st June, 2021

