



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

Ganges Street, Sophia,
Georgetown, GUYANA
Tel.: (592)-225-5467 / 5468 / 5469
Fax: (592) 225-5481
Website:
<http://www.epaguyana.org>
Email: epa@epaguyana.org

Environmental Permit (Renewed)

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.:	20140702 - NHSFL
Fees:	Small (C2) US\$875 Five (5) years (i.e., US\$175 per year)
Fees Paid:	US\$875 (November, 2021 to October, 2026)

Addressee(s): Ms. Dianne Jodah
Administrative Manager
Noble House Seafoods Limited.
Block 'X'
Eccles
East Bank Demerara.

Activity: Operation of the Seafood Processing Plant

Noble House Seafoods Limited, 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 the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, to operate a Seafood Processing Plant, located at Block 'X', Eccles, East Bank Demerara, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Renewal Application submitted on August 23, 2019, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, existing and/or forthcoming regulations made under the said Act, and/or any other applicable laws, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

Terms and Conditions for Operation to be adhered to by the Permit Holder, His Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractors:



1.0 OPERATION

- 1.1 Make an application to the Agency to vary this Permit in instances where it becomes necessary to:
- i. change the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and all associated buildings;
 - ii. change equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility;
 - iii. change the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents; or
 - iv. effect any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.2 Maintain a foot bath containing a disinfectant at all entrances to plant and make its use mandatory before entry; and prohibit unauthorized persons from entering the facility.
- 1.3 Clean all work surfaces and storage areas immediately following production; and immediately remove all solid waste generated during production should be immediately removed from production line to avoid contamination.
- 1.4 Adhere to the Code of Practice of the Fisheries Department and the Veterinary Public Health.
- 1.5 Obtain and maintain a valid Fire Safety Certificate and regularly maintain and service all firefighting equipment. Submit the Fire Safety Certificate on request during Compliance Inspections and in Environmental **Annual Reports**.
- 1.6 Provide adequate fire protection measures such as fire extinguishers and sand buckets in accordance with the Guyana Fire Service (GFS) approval.

2.0 EMPLOYEES AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 2.1 All employees must be equipped with and trained in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) relevant to their job specification, such as, leather aprons, hair-nets, long boots, hi-visibility vests, respirators, hard hats, gloves, and appropriate footwear.

PPEs must be utilised by employees during the execution of work-related activities and a log of the distribution of PPEs to employees must be maintained and made available during a compliance inspection.

- 2.2 A first aid kit equipped according to the Guyana Red Cross standards must be located on site at times and communication and transportation systems must be in place to respond to emergencies.
- 2.3 All employees must be trained in the use of fire extinguishers and firefighting protocols.
- 2.4 Train employees in the correct use of the cutting equipment including the use of machine safety devices, handling/storage and upkeep of knives, and emergency shutoff procedures.
- 2.5 Make all relevant employees/third party contractors aware of the Conditions of this Environmental Permit (Renewed) and implement training on good environmental management practices (GEMP). Maintain a record of GEMP training provided GEMP provided to employees and make these available during a compliance inspection.

3.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013**, where applicable.
- 3.2 Maintain good housekeeping, sanitary, hygienic practices, and the aesthetic quality of your surroundings at all times.
- 3.3 Ensure effective management of recoverable materials and all waste generated by the project is in accordance with the EP Act, Cap 20:05 part V s. 19(1)(2)(3)(4): s. 20(1)(2).
- 3.4 Promote proper solid waste management practices at Project site. Covered garbage receptacles must be placed at strategic locations inside and outside of the facility. Collect domestic and office waste in separate receptacles and dispose such wastes at the Haags Bosch Landfill. Reuse, recycle and/or compost waste materials as far as practical.
- 3.5 All wastes generated from the Seafood Processing Plant (i.e., viscera, fins, scales, shrimp and fish heads and carapace, etc.) must be stored in leak-proof and covered containers and disposed of on a daily basis at an approved waste disposal facility.
- 3.6 The disposal of solid waste on the foreshores and/or in the Demerara River is **strictly prohibited**.
- 3.7 Equip the floor drains and outlets of wastewater channels with the appropriate grids and screens, and/or traps, to reduce the concentration of solids entering the Demerara River.

- 3.8 Maintain a septic tank system at all times which should be accessible for cleaning and de-sludging. Any modification to the septic tank (s) 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*.

4.0 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/WASTES MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000**.
- 4.2 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 Schedules 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.

- 4.3 There shall be no release of any pollutants such as fuels and waste oils to soils or surface from the permitted installation. Any accidental release of pollutants to soil or surface waters must be recorded and reported **within twenty-four (24) hours** to the Agency for further investigation.
- 4.4 Use leak-proof containers during the transport of fuel to operation.
- 4.5 Store waste oils 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.
- 4.6 Promote the reuse of waste oil, for example, as lubricant for equipment, where practical.

- 4.7 Label waste oils, used batteries, oily rags, filters and oil containers appropriately and stored then in a containment bund with an impervious surface until such time for reuse or sale to an authorised dealer.
- 4.8 Ensure that an appropriate spill containment kit is located onsite. The kit should contain absorbent materials to absorb spilt oil and/or other liquids.

5.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000 and the Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000.**
- 5.2 Comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) Guidelines for noise emission into the environment, not exceeding the limits below at a distance of 15m (50 ft) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.

- **Industrial Limits 100 dB** (Day-time (06:00 h - 18:00 h))

- 5.3 Equip all significant noise-producing equipment, e.g., generator (s), water treatment plant, peelers, graders, etc. with appropriate silencers or mufflers and/or enclose them in suitable acoustic enclosures to reduce noise levels impacting the surrounding environment to achieve compliance with *Guyana National Bureau of Standards* (GNBS) requirement.
- 5.4 Place all equipment and machinery on foundations that are properly designed to effectively dampen vibrations.
- 5.5 Implement all possible measures such as, ensuring equipment and machines are serviced and operated according to manufacturer's recommendations to minimise the impact of sound levels on the environment.

6.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.**
- 6.2 Monitor the well and reservoir for heavy metals on an annual basis and for bacteria on a bi-annual basis, once within the rainy season and in the dry season and submit the results to the Agency. Comply with World Health Organization (WHO) Guideline (2006) Chemical Parameters and for Drinking Water Quality First Addendum to Third Edition, Volume One for heavy metals and bacteria respectively, not exceeding the limits shown in the table below:



Parameters	WHO Guideline (2006)
Microbiological Parameters	
<i>E. coli</i>	0/100 ml
Total coliform	0/100 ml

6.3 Maintain the integrity of the **Demerara River**. Discharges into the environment should be in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards Interim Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment. The limits below should not be exceeded:

- Temperature (<40°C);
- pH (5.0-9.0);
- Total Suspended Solids (TSS <50 mg/l);
- Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD <50 mg/l);
- Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD <250 mg/l)
- Oil and Grease (< 10 mg/l);
- NH₃ (<5 mg/l); and
- Chloroform (<0.002 mg/l).

Monitor the parameters above on a bi-annual basis (in the rainy and dry seasons) and submit the results as part of the Annual Report. A minimum of three (3) sampling points must be monitored at a) the final discharge point b) upstream and downstream.

- 6.4 Discharge or dumping of solid waste and/or untreated effluent directly into the **Demerara River** is **strictly prohibited**.
- 6.5 Promote the conservation of water resources by minimizing water consumed and reusing where possible.
- 6.6 Monitor the daily consumption of water and provide the data to the EPA as part of your Annual Report (Condition 7.3).
- 6.7 Keep the drainage system free of debris and/or vegetation and conduct regular cleaning of the drainage network and the immediate environs.

7.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 7.1 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.

- 7.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Environmental Permit (Renewed), insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 7.3 Submit to the EPA, the **Environmental Annual Reports** 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 (Please see attached, the *Guidelines for the preparation of Environmental Annual Reports*).
- 7.4 Conform to all terms and conditions under which this Environmental Permit (Renewed) is granted and shall be liable for any loss or damage which arises from the project as a result of the Permit Holder's activities or breach of any term or condition of this Permit.
- 7.5 Inform the Agency prior to or **within thirty (30) days** of any change of name or ownership of the operation.
- 7.6 Notify the Agency **within twenty-one (21) days** in event of death, bankruptcy, liquidation or receivership of the Permit Holder or if the Company becomes a party to an amalgamation.
- 7.7 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.
- 7.8 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with this Environmental Permit within twenty-four (24) hours of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit becomes aware of the non-compliance outlining the anticipated manner in which human health or the environment may be impacted.
- 7.9 Within seventy-two (72) hours of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit becomes aware of the non-compliance, submit to the Agency a written report containing a description of the non-compliance, its cause, the period of non-compliance including exact dates and time and the anticipated time it is expected to continue if the non-compliance(s) has not been corrected.


8.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 8.1 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.
- 8.2 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.


- 8.3 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 8.4 The Permit Holder 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.
- 8.5 The Permit Holders, his Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractors while executing the activities attributable to the project shall:
- a. be liable for any material environmental harm caused by polluting the environment, pursuant to s. 39 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana;
 - b. be liable for any serious environmental harm caused by polluting the environment, pursuant to s. 39 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana;
 - c. be liable for discharging, causing or permitting the entry into the environment, of any contaminant in any amount, concentration or level excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana;
 - d. be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 8.5.c of this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana;
 - e. not be indemnified by the Agency for any activity that causes or is likely to cause pollution to the environment, resulting from adverse effects through the discharge, any contaminant in any amount, concentration, ultra-hazardous substances, chemicals or otherwise, and shall be rendered liable to prosecution and to penalties prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act and Regulations;
 - f. be liable for any gross negligence or willful misconduct caused by the Permit Holder, his Servants and/or Agents, to the environment, biodiversity, protected species and natural habitat with respect to any release, discharge, or spill, of contaminant fluids, oil or lubricants; and
 - g. be liable for the cost of any independent investigation into any discharge caused.

- 8.6 Should the Permit Holder contravene or be 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 Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 8.7 Where it appears to the Agency that the Permit Holder is engaged in any activity that may pose a serious threat to natural resources or the environment, or a risk of serious pollution of the environment or any damage to public health, the EPA may issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice, which may order him to immediately cease the offending activity, in accordance with Section 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 8.8 All relevant permissions must be obtained and maintained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.
- 8.9 All relevant permissions, approvals and supporting documentations must be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation, and subsequently maintained.
- 8.10 This Environmental Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein **November, 2021 to October, 2026**. This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **October 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.
- 8.11 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 **April 30, 2026**.
- 8.12 Any submission of renewal application after the specified date as stated above, may 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 business day** for every day late, until such renewal application is submitted to the Agency, without prejudice to any other rights of the Permit Holder in connection therewith.
- 8.13 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.

Signed by  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.
Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director

Date 2021. 11. 22

I hereby accept the above Terms and Conditions upon which this Environmental Permit (Renewed) 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	Bhupesh Rundleen
DESIGNATION	Customer's Documentation Clerk
SIGNATURE	
DATE	26/11/2021

