



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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

Environmental 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.:	20220328-APVRF
Fee:	– US\$ 800 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$1,600 (August 2022 to July 2024)
Addressee(s):	Hemaindra Ramjattan Lot 10, Delph Street Campbellville Georgetown
Activity:	Construction and Operation of an Agro-Processing Facility

Hemaindra Ramjattan, 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 (Authorizations) Regulations, 2000, for the construction and operation of an agro-processing facility, located at Lots 12-16 Section A, No. 47 Village, Corentyne, Berbice, hereinafter referred to as the “Project”, in a manner indicated in the Application submitted on May 28, 2022, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, 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:

1.0 INFRASTRUCTURE

- 1.1 Notify the Agency in writing of any proposed changes in the construction of the Agro-processing facility at least **fourteen (14) days before** making the change. The notification shall contain a **description of the proposed change in construction**. It is not necessary to make such a notification if an

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Application to vary this permit has been made and the Application contains a description of the proposed change. In this condition **‘change in construction’** means a change in the nature or functioning, or an extension, of the installation, which may have consequences for the environment.

- 1.2 Conduct all construction activities in accordance with measures outlined in the approved site plan unless otherwise stated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- 1.3 Utilise the land in accordance with the plan submitted to the Agency. All specifications of location, pathways, reserve, and boundary lines must be adhered to unless otherwise authorised.
- 1.4 Avoid construction works between 18:00 h and 06:00 h on any day.
- 1.5 Ensure that employees are equipped with and trained in the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in accordance with the job specification. Examples of protective equipment include but are not limited to protective headwear, respirators (N95 filters or N95 mask), ear protection, safety vests, and safety boots.
- 1.6 Identify suitable areas for material stockpiles and equipment during construction.
- 1.7 Avoid any road traffic hazards or unnecessary inconveniences to the general public through appropriate planning and management of the construction site.
- 1.8 Remove all construction tools, equipment, machinery, and waste material from the site upon the completion of construction works.
- 1.9 All vehicles utilized for the transport of building material to the site must be appropriately covered to minimize the risk of dust emissions to the environment.

2.0 OPERATION

- 2.1 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 Regulation 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 2.2 Develop and submit a waste management plan and an emergency response plan **within three (3) months** upon receiving this Environmental Permit.
- 2.3 A first aid kit, equipped in accordance with the Guyana Red Cross Standards must be located onsite at all times.
- 2.4 Make all employees aware of the conditions of this Environmental Permit and provide training on good environmental management practices.
- 2.5 Obtain approval from the Guyana Fire Service and provide fire protection measures such as fire extinguishers and sand buckets in accordance with this approval.
- 2.6 Ensure the Fire Safety Certificate is renewed annually and all firefighting equipment are maintained and serviced regularly. Fire Safety Certificate should be submitted to officers upon request during compliance inspection and in the Annual Report.
- 2.7 Ensure all employees are trained in the use of firefighting equipment, such as fire extinguishers, and understand the firefighting protocol.
- 2.8 Ensure an updated Evacuation Plan is maintained and posted at strategic locations.

3.0 WATER AND SOIL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

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

- 3.1 Maintain the Integrity of the existing waterways at all times. Discharges into the environment should be in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Interim Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment*. The following are the allowable limits for this type of project and should not be exceeded:
- pH 5.0 to 9.0;
 - Temperature < 40 °C;
 - Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 100 mg/L

Further, monitor the parameters on an **annual basis** and submit the results to the Agency.

- 3.2 Avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils, and other petroleum products that might be used at the project site. Ensure to store all oils, fuel, paints, and chemicals in a designated area.
- 3.3 Conduct equipment refueling, maintenance, and placement on an impervious base to prevent any fuel spills/leaks from contaminating the soil and surface/groundwater. Oil spills should be cleaned up by the best practicable means, to prevent any runoff into nearby waterways.
- 3.4 Ensure that the drainage is kept free-flowing and free of debris and vegetation. Regular cleaning of the drainage network and the immediate environment must be conducted.

4.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000** and the **Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000**.

- 4.1 Comply with Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment*, not exceeding the residential limits below, at a distance of 15 metres (50 feet) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.

Residential Limits: **75 dB** (Day-time (06:00 h-18:00 h))
 60 dB (Night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h))

- 4.2 Ensure that all construction activities are done in such a manner to prevent/avoid adverse noise nuisance to the surrounding environment.
- 4.3 At all times mechanical equipment should be operated in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and at optimum levels to minimize atmospheric emissions.
- 4.4 The open burning of solid waste onsite is **strictly prohibited**.
- 4.5 All significant noise-producing equipment, such as generators must be equipped with appropriate silencers or mufflers and/or 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

Comply with the Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013.

- 5.1 Promote proper solid waste management and disposal practices at the project site. In particular, dispose of waste at the nearest designated waste disposal site or contract an approved waste disposal service provider. Covered garbage receptacles must be placed at strategic locations around the project site.
- 5.2 All construction waste must be promptly disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility after the completion of construction activities.
- 5.3 Maintain good housekeeping, sanitary, hygienic practices, and the aesthetic quality of your surroundings at all times.
- 5.4 Maintain a septic system on-site at all times. The septic tank should not be located within 1.5 metre of a building or property boundary, and 30 metres from wells. Septic tanks should also 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 WASTE/MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 Take the necessary precautionary measures during the transport of hazardous materials to the facility, during use, and handling on site.
- 6.2 Store oil/fuel containment absorbent materials in a covered container lined with plastic until suitable disposal method (s) are approved by the EPA. The container should be clearly labeled.
- 6.3 The Chemical Storage Area shall be clearly labeled with “**Danger, Hazardous Storage Area- Authorized Personnel Only**” where applicable as a spill control measure.
- 6.4 Chemicals shall be stored in accordance with the Safety Data Sheet (SDS).
- 6.5 Safety Data Sheets for all chemicals shall be readily available and easily accessible at all times at the project site.
- 6.6 Storage containers shall be inspected for signs of leakage or corrosion and damaged containers **must be replaced immediately**. Inspection reports shall be maintained on-site and made available to the EPA upon request.

7.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

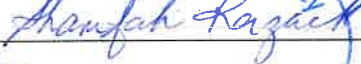
- 7.1 Comply with any lawful directions given by the EPA from time to time in furtherance of the implementation of any international or other obligation for the Environmental Protection of Guyana.
- 7.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Environmental Permit, insofar as they involve 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 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 of non-compliance with the Environmental Permit:
- 7.8.1 Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time, the Holder of the Environmental Permit becomes aware of the non-compliance, and the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.
 - 7.8.2 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.
 - 7.8.3 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.

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, and its regulations.
- 8.2 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 8.3 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. Pursuant to s.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.
- 8.4 This Environmental Permit is not the final consent; all relevant permission should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.
- 8.5 The Permit Holder shall compensate any Party who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the attributed Project (See: s. 19 (3)(e) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana).
- 8.6 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's lack of due care and diligence.
- 8.7 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any gross negligence or willful misconduct caused by the Permit Holder, his Servants, and/or Agents, to the surrounding environment, including harm to biodiversity, protected species, and natural habitat with respect to any release or discharge, spill, contaminant fluids, oil or lubricants from the fuel storage.
- 8.8 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 serious pollution of the Environment or any damage to public health, issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice Order to immediately cease the offending activity (See s. 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana).
- 8.9 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 s. 26 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

- 8.10 This Environmental Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein **August, 2022 to July, 2024**. This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **July 31, 2024**, unless otherwise varied, modified, suspended, cancelled, or revoked in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana and the Environmental Protection Regulations.
- 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 **January 31, 2024**.
- 8.12 Any late submission of renewal application (s) after the specified date as stated above, the agency may require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to the 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 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 or with applicable laws and regulations, whether existing or forthcoming, shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to penalties, inclusive of civil penalties, injunctive relief, and imprisonment, as prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection Regulations, and any other applicable Laws of Guyana.

Signed by  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

 **Kemraj Parsram**
Executive Director

Date 2022-08-10

I hereby accept the above Terms and Conditions upon which this Environmental 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, and any forthcoming regulations and standards made under this Act.

Environmental Permit - Ref. No.: 20220328-APVRF

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

NAME:	Hemendra Ramjattan
DESIGNATION:	Owner
SIGNATURE:	H. Ramjattan
DATE:	22/10/2022



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