



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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Environmental Permit (Renewed)

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

Reference No.:	20190306-PHTJH
Fees:	Medium (C2) - US \$4000 for 5 years i.e., US \$ 800 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$4000 - (5 years - June, 2022 - May, 2027)

Addressee(s): Mr Tamesh Jagmohan
Proprietor
Pure Harvest Inc.
Parcel 421 Hampton Court,
Essequibo.

Activity: Operation of a Rice Mill

Tamesh Jagmohan, trading and operating under the name, Pure Harvest 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 the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, to operate a Rice Mill, located at Parcel 421 Hampton Court, Essequibo, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Application submitted on February 18, 2022, 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 Act, and/or any other applicable laws, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

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

1.0 OPERATION

- 1.1 Make an application to the Agency to vary this Permit in instances where it becomes necessary to:
- (a) change the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and all associated buildings;
 - (b) change equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility;
 - (c) change the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents; or
 - (d) effect any other change outlined in Regulation 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.2 Provide adequate fire protection measures such as fire extinguishers and/or sand buckets in accordance with the Guyana Fire Service approval.
- 1.3 All mechanical equipment, for example; the furnace, milling apparatus and separator must be operated in accordance with the respective manufacturer's specifications. Additionally, all vehicles shall be regularly maintained and operated at their optimal levels.
- 1.4 All pesticides used for the prevention and/ or treatment of storage pests must be approved for use in Guyana by the Pesticide & Toxic Chemical Board (PTCCB).
- 1.5 All agro-chemical containers must be decontaminated in accordance with measures outlined in the Material Data Safety Sheets (MSDS) provided with the respective product. In the absence of an MSDS, agro-chemical containers should be decontaminated by triple- resining with clean water (rinsing three times). All rinsate/effluent generated during the decontamination process must be disposed of by placing into a spray can and sprayed on vegetation or weeds in an area at least 10 metres away from any waterway.

2.0 EMPLOYEES AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 2.1 Adhere to the requirements of the **Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap. 99:01, Laws of Guyana.**
- 2.1.1 All employees must be equipped with and trained in the use Personal Protective Equipment in accordance with their job specifications.

- 2.1.2 A first-aid kit, equipped in accordance with the Guyana Red Cross Standards must be located onsite at all times.
- 2.2 The application of all pesticides must be done by a certified pest control operator.
- 2.3 Communication and transportation facilities must be in place to adequately respond in cases of emergencies.
- 2.4 All employees/third-party contractors should be aware of the Conditions of this Environmental Permit and be provided with training on good environmental management practices. A training report shall be kept and submitted upon request during a Compliance Inspection.

3.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000**.
- 3.2 The disposal of paddy husk, paddy ash or any other solid waste into drains and/or surrounding waterways is strictly prohibited.
- 3.3 Drainage network in and around facility must be kept free of debris and/or vegetation

4.0 AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000**
- 4.2 Comply with the **World Health Organization (WHO) Air Quality Guidelines** for Particulate Matter in the Environment, not exceeding the limits below:

PM_{2.5}: 10 µg/m³ - annual mean
25 µg/m³ - 24-hour mean

PM₁₀: 20 µg/m³ - annual mean
50 µg/m³ - 24-hour mean

Monitor parameters on an annual basis (during active milling period) and submit to the Agency as part of your Annual Report required in condition 8.6.

- 4.3 At all times during its operation, the rice mill must be suitably enclosed to minimize the escape of fugitive dust and/or particulate matter to the environment.
- 4.4 Discharge paddy in an environmentally safe manner through the use of appropriate equipment to minimize the release of dust emission to the environment.
- 4.5 Ash/ dust collection bin/s with a capacity to store at least 75% by volume of dust/ ash generated during a typical milling season must be located onsite. All ash/ dust generated onsite should be temporarily stored in bin/s until such time for disposal at an approved waste disposal facility or in accordance with a method approved by the Agency.
- 4.6 **The opening burning of paddy hull onsite is strictly prohibited.**

5.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013.**
- 5.2 Good house-keeping, sanitary and hygienic practices must be maintained at project site.
- 5.3 Covered garbage receptacles must be placed at strategic locations both in and outside of facility. Waste collected in these receptacles must be disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility.
- 5.4 Paddy hull generated onsite should be temporarily stored in heaps not exceeding 2 meters high and be wetted as often as necessary to minimize the emission of particulate matter to the environment. Alternative use of paddy hull including, landfilling, feed stock for the dryer, and the distribution to farmers are strongly encouraged.
- 5.5 Paddy ash/ dust generated onsite must be disposed of at an approved waste disposal or in accordance with a method approved by the Agency.
- 5.6 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.

6.0 NOISE MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000.**
- 6.2 Ensure all significant noise-producing equipment, e.g. generators, milling equipment, etc., are fitted 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 the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) requirement.
- 6.3 Comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment*, not exceeding the limits below at a distance of 15 metres (50 feet) from the source or at the property boundary, whichever is closer.

Commercial Limits: 80 dB (Day-time (06:00 h -18:00 h))
65 dB (Night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h))

- 6.4 All equipment and machinery must be placed on foundations properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations.

7.0 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000.**
- 7.2 Maintain a fuel containment bund for all fuel storage tanks. The containment bund must have the capacity to store 110% of the volume of fuel stored in the tanks.
- 7.3 Designate an area for the storage of fertilizers and chemicals. The area selected must be secured and have a base constructed of an impervious material and be well ventilated.
- 7.4 Refrain from draining fuel/lubricants including used oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways. An oil-water separator should be installed at a strategic location, preferably at the interceptor drain, through which all effluent must pass before final discharge into drainage system.

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- 7.5 Used oils generated onsite must be stored in a designated area that has a bunded wall with the capacity to store 110% of the capacity of used oils stored onsite at any given time.
- 7.6 Promote the reuse of used oil, for example for lubrication of equipment.]
- 7.7 Label, store and dispose of used oil and batteries in an environmentally acceptable manner, approved by the EPA.

8.0 COMPLIANCE, MONITORING & REPORTING

- 8.1 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency **within one (1) hour** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies (e.g., oil spills, hazardous materials/wastes spill, sudden onset disaster, natural, technological or human-induced factors that cause or threaten to cause severe environmental damage as well as harm to human health or livelihood).
- 8.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 8.3 Notify the Agency in writing of any change of name or ownership of the Permit Holder's facility within **thirty (30) days** after the change occurs.
- 8.4 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.
- 8.5 Maintain and submit to the Agency records of the type, composition and quantity of contaminant released (i.e., any solid, liquid, gas, odour, sound, vibration, radiation, heat or combination of any of them).
- 8.6 Submit an **Annual Report** to the EPA on your compliance with this Environmental Permit on or before **March 31, each year**.
- 8.7 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with the Environmental Permit:
 - i. 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.
 - ii. 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.

- 8.8 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.

9.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND LIABILITIES

- 9.1 The Permit Holder shall 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.
- 9.2 The Permit Holder shall 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.
- 9.3 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any activity that causes or is likely to cause pollution of the environment unless all reasonable and practicable measures are taken to prevent or minimise any resulting adverse effect, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 9.4 The Permit Holder shall 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.
- 9.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the contravention of the conditions of this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 9.6 The Permit Holder shall 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.
- 9.7 The Permit Holder shall be liable of 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.

- 9.8 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.
- 9.9 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.
- 9.10 The EPA reserves the right to conduct regular inspections of the Permit Holder's activities as part of its monitoring and enforcement requirements under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05 and its regulations.
- 9.11 The Permit Holder, His Servants and/or Agents 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.
- 9.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 9.13 **This Environmental Permit is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 9.14 This **Environmental Permit** is effective for the period stipulated herein, **June, 2022 to May, 2027.**
- 9.15 This **Environmental Permit** shall remain valid until **May 31 2027**, unless otherwise suspended, cancelled, modified or varied, in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 9.16 This **Environmental Permit** must be renewed by submitting a completed *Application Form for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation* to the Agency at least six (6) months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **November 31, 2026.**

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9.17 Any late submission of renewal application 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 (\$2,000.00) 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.

9.18 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 *Shanifah Lazack* on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.
Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director

Date 2022-06-09

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, 2000, and any forthcoming regulations, best practices, guidelines and standards made under this Act.

NAME:	<i>Prisha Geer</i>
DESIGNATION:	<i>Compliance Asst.</i>
SIGNATURE:	<i>[Signature]</i>
DATE:	<i>June 22, 2022</i>



