



**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

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: | 20230419 EBCAC |
| Fees: | Small (C1) US \$100 per year |
| Fees paid | US \$100 (September 2023 - August 2024) |

Addressee(s): East Berbice/ Corentyne Aquaculture Co-operative
Society LTD
Lot 10 Sub Lot
North Public Road, Fyrish
Corentyne, Berbice

Activity: Operation of an Aquaculture Farm

East Berbice/ Corentyne Aquaculture Co-operative Society LTD, 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 an Aquaculture Farm located at Lots 6, 7, 8, & 9, Section A, East Half Fyrish, Corentyne, Berbice, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Application submitted on April 14, 2023, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, any existing 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 Servant, Agents, and/or Sub-Contractors shall comply with the following Terms and Conditions for the Operation:

1.0 GENERAL

- 1.1 Make an application to the Agency to vary this Environmental Permit in instances where it becomes necessary to:

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- 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. Affect any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.2 The use of antibiotics or any other chemicals is strictly prohibited unless written permission is granted by the **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** and the **Ministry of Agriculture Department of Fisheries**.
- 1.3 In the event of a large shrimp kill or the outbreak of a disease the **EPA, the Guyana Livestock Development Authority, and the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries Department** should be contacted immediately.
- 1.4 The Permit Holder shall utilise the land in accordance with the approved site plan, all specifications of location, pathways, reserve, and boundary lines must be adhered to unless otherwise authorised.
- 1.5 Adhere to the Drainage & Irrigation Laws of Guyana. Cap.64:03.
 - 1.5.1 Maintain the adequate drainage system at the facility and ensure that the land is levelled and appropriately built up to avoid floods and contamination of the receiving waters; and
 - 1.5.2 Maintain a perimeter drain, which shall be adequately sloped to collect storm flow.
- 1.6 Maintain the sides of the ponds to a slope of 30° to prevent slippage. Where the embankment is constructed of clay, the slope should be steeper and a common species of grass should be planted on the pond-bands to minimise/prevent soil erosion.
- 1.7 Maintain a vegetative buffer of no less than 50 metres from the main drainage canal and maintain the sea defence boundary.
- 1.8 The Permit Holder shall not remove sediment from the ponds and place soil piles on the embankments or surrounding areas. Use sediments to repair pond embankments or responsibly dispose of them.
- 1.9 The Permit Holder shall ensure that all employees are equipped with the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) relevant to employee duties during operating hours. Employees should at all times wear relevant PPEs while engaged in their duties of employment.

1.10 The Permit Holder shall make all employees, and third parties under your direction, aware of the conditions of the Environmental Permit and provide training on good environmental practices. Prepare and maintain a training file for employees which shall be submitted to officers upon request.

1.11 Routinely monitor ponds to ensure integrity in an effort to minimize overtopping.

2.0 WATER AND SOIL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Comply with and adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000.

2.1 Maintain the integrity of the existing waterways at all times. Discharges into the environment shall 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 shall not be exceeded:

- pH 5.0 -9.0
- Total Suspended Solids (TSS < 100 mg/L);
- Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD <50 mg/L)
- Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD <250 mg/L)
- Total Nitrogen (<10 mg/L) ; and
- Total phosphorous (<0.2 mg/L)

2.2 Monitoring of the parameters in Condition 2.1 shall be conducted on an annual basis and the results submitted as a component of the Annual Report. Samples shall be obtained from the inlet of the source water for the pond at the beginning of the crop and at the outlet of the effluent discharge from the same pond at the end of the same crop.

2.3 Do not leave the discharge door of the empty pond open to prevent erosion and discharge of suspended solids during heavy rainfall periods.

2.4 The Permit Holder shall Ensure that filtration systems (sieves/filters) are placed at the entrances of the inlet structures to prevent unwanted species and/ or their larvae from entering and at the exits of the outlet structures to prevent cultured species escape.

3.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

3.1 In accordance with the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations 2013**, provide covered garbage receptacles at strategic locations,

and at the project site which should be emptied, cleaned, and maintained.

3.2 Open-burning waste is **Strictly Prohibited**.

3.3 The Permit Holder shall notify all of the relevant authorities of fish kills or deaths.

3.3.1 Dispose of small quantities of dead fish by burial, in an area that does not have a high-water table. Each disposal must be followed by the application of lime and the pit should not receive more than 30 kg of biomass per month.

3.3.2 In the event of a large number of death, the cause of death must be determined before disposal methods are approved by the **Ministry of Agriculture Department of Fisheries**.

4.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

4.1 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.

4.2 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.

4.3 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*).

4.4 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.

4.5 Inform the Agency prior to or **within thirty (30) days** of any change of name or ownership of the operation.

4.6 Notify the Agency **within twenty-one (21) days** in the event of death, bankruptcy, liquidation or receivership of the Permit Holder or if the Company becomes a party to an amalgamation.

4.7 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.

4.8 Report to the Agency of non-compliance with the Environmental Permit:

- 4.8.1 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.
- 4.8.2 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.
- 4.8.3 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.

5.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY / LIABILITIES

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 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 minimize any resulting adverse effect, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 5.4 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.
- 5.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 10.3 and 10.4 of this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 5.6 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.

- 5.7 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.
- 5.8 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.
- 5.9 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.
- 5.10 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, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 5.11 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.
- 5.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 5.13 **This Environmental Permit is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 5.14 This Environmental Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein **September 2023 to August 2024.**
- 5.15 This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **August 31, 2024**, unless otherwise varied, modified, suspended, cancelled, or revoked in accordance with

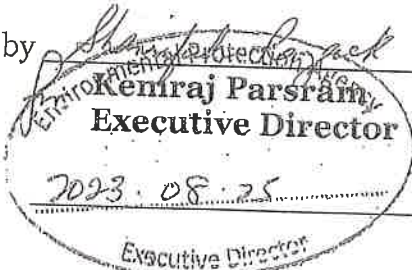
the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana and the Environmental Protection Regulations.

5.16 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 **March 31, 2024**.

5.17 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 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.

5.18 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 *Keniraj Parsram* on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.



Date

2023.08.25

Executive Director

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.

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| NAME: | <u>Suresh Persaud</u> |
| DESIGNATION: | <u>CHARAMAN</u> |
| SIGNATURE: | <u>Suresh Persaud</u> |
| DATE: | <u>31-08-2023</u> |



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Environmental Protection Agency

File Copy

Head Office - Ganges Street, Sophia, Georgetown, Guyana.

Tel (592) 225-6048/44 225-5471/67 Fax: (592) 225-5481

Branch Office - Berbice (Whim, Corentyne, Linden (LEN Building, Mackenzie) + Tel (592) 225-5481

Date: 20060224

No. 27695

Received From: East Berbice/Lowerlyne Aquaculture Cooperative Society Ltd

The Sum of: one thousand one hundred and \$1,120

twenty dollars

FINANCE DIVISION

For: 10002 copies of Permits (8 pages double side coloured & 2 pages one side)

(letter size) coloured

PAID

☒ Cash ☐ Cheques ☐ Wire Transfer

Balance due Amt. \$ -

Signature: S. Malabu

