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# **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.:	20230726-RHBHP
Fee	Small (C1) US\$ 500 (5 years) i.e. US\$ 100 per year
	US\$ 500 (March, 2024 to February, 2029)

Addressee(s):

Mr. Rayaadul Hakh

**Proprietor** 

**Rayaadul Hakh Rice Industries** 

Lot 1B Strangroen West Mahaicony East Coast Demerara

**Activity:** 

**Operation of a Paddy Storage Facility** 

Rayaadul Hakh, trading and operating as Rayaadul Hakh Rice Industries, 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 Paddy Storage Facility, located at Lot 10, Section B, No. 62 Village, Corentyne, Berbice, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in the manner indicated in the Application submitted on July 26, 2024, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, existing or forthcoming regulations made under the said Act and/or any other applicable Laws of Guyana, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

Terms and Conditions for operation to be adhered to by the Permit Holder, his servants, agents and sub-contractors:

### 1.0 OPERATION

1.1 The Permit Holder shall make an application to the Agency to vary this Page 1 of 10

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Environmental Permit in instances where it becomes necessary to:

- 1.1.1 Change the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and all associated buildings;
- 1.1.2 Change equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system, or technology serving the facility;
- 1.1.3 Change the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents; or
- 1.1.4 Affect any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.2 The Permit Holder shall maintain good housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices, and the aesthetic quality of the surroundings be maintained at all times.
- 1.3 The Permit Holder shall make all employees aware of the conditions of this Environmental Permit and provide training on good environmental management practices inclusive of emergency response.
- 1.4 The Permit Holder shall practice integrated pest control management. Ensure that all pest control applications are conducted either by a Pest Control Operator (PCO) who is registered and certified by the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Control Board (PTCCB) or an employee of the Paddy Storage Facility who is certified by the PTCCB as a Pest Control Operator. Please note if the employee is selected as the Pest Control Operator, then the Paddy Storage Facility should be licensed to conduct the pest control activity. In the case of an employee as a Pest Control Operative, the following should be adhered to:
  - a) The Pest Control Operator shall be equipped with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) according to the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) during the mixing and application of pesticides including the spraying and rinsing operations.
  - b) Use only pesticides that are approved for use in Guyana by the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Control Board. Pesticides should be mixed in accordance with the pesticide label directions.
- Employees and visitors entering the area shall at all times, be well protected. Ensure that each employee is equipped with Personal Protective Equipment corresponding with his/her activity during the operation of the Paddy Storage Facility for example, protective headwear, respirators (e.g. N 95 filters or N 95 masks), safety vests, and safety boots, goggles, etc.

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### 2.0 AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 2.1 Comply with the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000.
- 2.2 Employ dust suppression methods, for example, cyclone sprinkler systems; watering to control dust emissions within the Paddy Storage Facility, from material stockpiles and external to the Storage Facility, dusty roadways, and other components of the development that generate dust.
  - 2.2.1 Develop a maintenance and cleaning schedule for the management of dust accumulation on ledges, floors, and other exposed surfaces.
  - 2.2.2 All efforts should be made for paddy husks and debris to be recovered and appropriately disposed of at a suitable location away from residents, or reused, where practical
- 2.3 The exhaust stack of the generator shall be at least two (2) metres above the tallest building nearby, to minimize adverse fumes/soot impacts to the contiguous areas.

### 3.0 NOISE MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations**, 2000.
- 3.2 Monitor noise emissions during the operation in accordance with the **Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS)** Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment. Sound levels from noise-making devices shall 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); and
- 60 dB during the night-time (18:00 h 06:00 h)
- 3.3 All significant noise-producing equipment, e.g. generators, shall be 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 GNBS requirements.

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- 3.4 The generator and machines/equipment shall be serviced in accordance with the manufacturers' specifications to ensure efficiency and reduce the level of noise produced. A maintenance log shall be submitted as a component of the Annual Report.
- 3.5 All equipment and machinery shall be placed on foundations designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations.

# 4.0 WATER QUALITY

Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.

- 4.1 The Permit Holder shall maintain oil-water separators at strategic locations on the storage facility through which all effluents (oil-contaminated water) shall pass before the final discharge point.
- 4.2 The Permit Holder shall ensure that the interceptor drain flows through the oilwater separator before its final discharge.
- 4.3 The Permit Holder shall avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils, and other petroleum products.
- 4.4 The Permit Holder shall 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) *Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment*. The following are the allowable limits for this type of project and shall not exceed:
  - i. Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 100 mg/L;
  - ii. Oil and Grease < 10 mg/L; and
  - iii. Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH) <40 mg/L.
- 4.6 Monitor the parameters listed above on an annual basis and submit the results to the Agency as a component of the Annual Report. Samples shall be taken from a point after the oil-water separator but before the drainage system. Samples shall be analyzed by a certified laboratory.

### 5.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Paddy husks/chaff accumulating on site, i.e. the heap height shall not exceed 2 meters and wet suppression methods shall be used to reduce dust pollution during the transport of paddy chaff to surrounding areas.
- 5.2 Dispose of any additional unused paddy husk, paddy impurities, and any other Page 4 of 10

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solid waste at a disposal site approved by the Neighbourhood Democratic Council. Prior to disposal of the waste paddy husk, it should be placed in polystyrene bags and secured to prevent it from being blown by wind onto the surrounding areas.

- 5.3 When transporting the waste paddy husk to the disposal site, ensure that all bagged waste paddy husk is securely packaged in the transport vehicle and that it is offloaded in a manner so as to prevent tearing.
- 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 FUEL, WASTE OIL & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulation 2000.
- 6.2 The Permit Holder shall store all fuel away from ignition sources and have "No Smoking" signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 6.3 The secondary containment (bunded area) shall be maintained to minimise the spread/ release of liquid material spillage occurring within the storage area. The secondary containment wall shall possess the following characteristics:
  - 6.3.1 The capacity of the secondary containment facility shall be equal to 110% of the greatest volume of liquid stored within the largest storage container.
  - 6.3.2 The walls of the secondary containment facility shall be constructed of earth, steel, concrete, or solid masonry.
  - 6.3.3 Cracks and seams shall be sealed to prevent leakage.
- 6.4 The bunded area shall be clearly labelled and have the capacity to provide 110% containment of the total volume of waste oils stored.
- 6.5 Secondary containment, drip trays, or other overflow and drip containment measures shall be installed and maintained at connection points or other possible overflow points.
- 6.6 The Permit Holder shall ensure that oil/fuel-contaminated absorbent materials are appropriately stored by double wrapping them in heavy-duty garbage bags. All contaminated absorbent materials shall be disposed of at an authorized

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Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility.

- 6.7 Waste oils recovered from the servicing of the generator, or from any other sources shall be stored in a covered bunded area to minimize adverse impacts on the environment in the event of a spillage.
- 6.8 Fuel/lubricants including waste oils shall not be drained from the equipment onto the ground or into waterways.

# 7.0 SPILLS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 The Permit Holder shall notify the Environmental Protection Agency within one (1) hour of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies (e.g., oil spills, hazardous materials/wastes spills, 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).
- 7.2 All near misses, spills, and unwanted/accidental discharges, **amounting to less than imperial five (5) gallons**, must be recorded and reported to the Agency as a component of the Annual Report.
- 7.3 Discharges of contaminants amounting to **five (5) imperial gallons or more** must be reported to the Agency by submitting an "Incident Notification Form for Spills in Onshore Operations" using the most recent template provided by the Agency, **within forty-eight (48) hours** of the incident. A follow-up incident notification form shall be submitted **within seventy-two (72) hours** of the submission of the initial notification form (a total of five days after the discharge of the contaminants.
- 7.4 The Permit Holder shall establish procedures for analysing accidents and failures to determine the causes of the failure and minimize the possibility of a recurrence. This information shall be made available to the Agency upon request.
- 7.5 An electronic shutdown system shall be maintained as a primary emergency response mechanism, along with one or more suitable leak detection mechanisms.
- 7.6 The Permit Holder shall provide a fully equipped first aid kit at all primary work sites and ensure that functional communication and transportation systems are in place to respond to emergencies.

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- 7.7 The Permit Holder shall maintain an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) for the entire facility, inclusive of the pipeline system. The ERP shall contain, but may not be restricted to the following:
  - i. Spill detection and mitigation procedures;
  - ii. Escape, evacuation, and rescue plan and assessment;
  - iii. A list of responsible parties and duties;
  - iv. A list of regulatory agencies to be notified;
  - v. Names and addresses of response organizations;
  - vi. Training procedures;
  - vii. A list of equipment to be utilized;
  - viii. Testing procedures to ensure that the equipment to be used remains in working condition; and
  - ix. Clean up and hazardous waste disposal procedures.

# 8.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING & REPORTING

- 8.1 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all other third parties under your direction.
- 8.2 Assign an individual responsible for coordinating environmental management, monitoring for compliance, reporting to the EPA, implementing the conditions of this Permit.
- 8.3 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency within **twenty-four** (24) hours of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies.
- 8.4 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.
- 8.5 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.
- 8.6 Report to the Agency of non-compliance 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, the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.

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- II. 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.
- III. 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.
- 8.7 Submit Annual Reports to the EPA on the progress of the operation and compliance with the conditions under which this Permit was granted on or before **March 31** of each year.
- 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 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 (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 9.2 The EPA reserves the right to review/amend the conditions attached to this Permit.
- 9.3 The EPA reserves the right to review/amend the permit fees attached to this Permit. The permit fees will be reviewed and amended in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, in consideration of any changes in fee structure as determined by the Agency for projects of this nature. Amended fees shall be retroactive to the date of issuance of this Permit.
- 9.4 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.
- 9.5 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 9.6 This Environmental Permit is not the final consent; all relevant permission should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.
- 9.7 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any affected party for any loss or

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damage to the environment that arises from the implementation of this project.

- 9.8 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 (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, including civil penalties and injunctive relief.
- 9.9 The Permit Holder shall be strictly liable for any loss or damage to the environment through any act caused intentionally or recklessly, through the adverse effect of any discharge or release, or cause or permit the entry of pollution, contaminant in any amount, concentration or level in excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by any Environmental Authorisation which are attributed to the Project. S. 19(1) EP Act, Cap. 20:05.
- 9.10 The Permit Holder shall be guilty of any offence in accordance with s. 39(1), (2),(3),(4) of the EP Act, Cap. 20:05, which states respectively –"every person who causes material or serious environmental harm by polluting the environment intentionally or recklessly and with the knowledge that material and/or serious environmental harm will or might result is guilty of an offence and shall be liable to the penalties prescribed under the Act."
- 9.11 The Permit Holder shall compensate any Party who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the attributed project. (Part V, s. 19(3)(e)) EP Act Cap. 20:05.
- 9.12 The Permit Holder shall be responsible for the payment of all costs related to the assessment of damage and costs for the independent assessor (s).
- 9.13 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.
- 9.14 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 EP Act Cap. 20:05.
- 9.15 Where it appears to the Agency (EPA) 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, issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice Order to immediately cease the offending activity. S. 27 EP Act, Cap. 20:05
- 9.16 This Environmental Permit is valid for the period stipulated herein (March 2024 to February 2029).
- 9.17 This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **February 28, 2029,** unless otherwise suspended or revoked in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection

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9.18 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 **August 31, 2028**.

Signed by Sharifah Lanck o

on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

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Date 2024.03.08

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, and Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000, and any existing or forthcoming regulations and standards made under this Act.

NAME:	RAYAADUL HAKH
DESIGNATION:	C. E.O
SIGNATURE:	pe Darindra Baromasi
DATE:	2024 04/05th



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# STRANGROEN AND LESBEHOLDEN RICE MILLS

Strangroen, Mahaicony, E.C.D & Lesbeholden, B.B.P, Corentyne, Berbice. Tel. 592-258-0085, Fax-592-258-0695 Email: reyaadhakh@gmail.com

2024.04.05

TO: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONCY AGENCY

**Ref: LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION** 

Dear Sir/Madam

I Rayaadul Hakh hereby authorize Darindra Baromasi to uplift a permit for paddy storage at our location at Number 62 Village Corentyne Berbice.

Thank You **Yours Sincerely** 

Rayaadul Hakh

General Manager

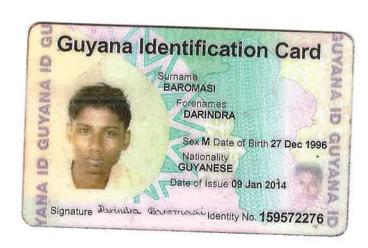
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Environmental Protection Agency

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