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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 the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000

Reference No.:	20110915-FHRMO
Fee:	Small (C1) US\$ 500 (5 years) i.e., US\$ 100 per year
Fees Paid:	US \$500 (September, 2024 to August, 2029)

Addressee(s):

Mr. Feyaadul Hakh

**Proprietor** 

A. Cayume Hakh & Son Cane Grove Rice Mill

Cane Grove Mahaica

East Coast Demerara.

**Activity:** 

Operation of a Rice Mill

Feyaadul Hakh, 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 1 – 2, Golden Grove, West Coast Berbice, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Renewal Application submitted on April 12, 2024, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, any existing or forthcoming Regulations made under the said Act, and any existing or forthcoming written law, guidelines, best practices, standards, codes of practice, and other statutory or regulatory instruments relevant to this project.

This is a Renewal of the Operation Permit, Reference Number - 20110915-FHRMO, issued on March 13, 2019, and which expired on January 31, 2024. This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

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



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#### 1.0 OPERATION

- 1.1 The Permit Holder shall 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.
- 1.2 Equip the processing facility, as well as machinery/equipment, with environmental management systems that will have minimal impact to public health and the environment.
- 1.3 Ensure that good house-keeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of your surroundings are maintained at all times.

## 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) to fit their job specification such as: chaps for chainsaw operators, hi-visibility vests, respirator (N95 filters or N95 mask), hard hats, gloves, and appropriate footwear. The Permit Holder shall ensure appropriate utilisation of these gears. A log for the distribution of PPE to employees must be maintained. Evidence of distribution log must be presented to officers of the Agency upon request during compliance inspections.
- 2.2 A first aid kit equipped according to the Guyana Red Cross standards must be located on site at times. Additionally, communication and transportation systems must be in place to respond to emergencies.
- 2.3 Ensure that all employees are trained in the use of the fire extinguishers and firefighting protocols.
- 2.4 Make all employees/third party contractors aware of the Conditions of the Operation Permit and provide training on good environmental management practices. Prepare and maintain a training file for employees which must be available upon Officers' request during a Compliance Inspection. A summary of such activities must be included in the **Annual Report**.



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## 3.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 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 Interim Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment*. In accordance with General Environmental Guidelines, the following maximum allowable limits should not be exceeded:
  - pH 5.0-9.0;
  - Temperature < 40 °C;</p>
  - Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 100 mg/L;</li>
  - Oil and Grease < 10 mg/L;</li>
  - Total Dissolved Solid (TDS) < 40 mg/L;</li>
  - Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) < 50 mg/l;</li>
  - Nitrate (N) < 15 mg/l;</p>
  - Phosphate  $(PO_4) < 1 \text{ mg/l}$ .
- 3.2 Conduct water quality monitoring of the parameters listed in condition 2.1 on a **biannual basis** and submit reports to the EPA. Samples should be obtained during milling season and sample points should include the final discharge point(s) from the facility, as well as an upstream and downstream sample from the receiving body of water.
- 3.3 Not discharge or dump solid waste (such as paddy husk, paddy ash, etc.) and/or trade effluent directly into the receiving waters.
- 3.4 Sweep, shovel or vacuum spilt ingredients prior to cleaning. Solid material should **NOT** be washed into surrounding drains.
- 3.5 Install and maintain mesh/sieve at the end of the drains discharging wastewater from the rice mill into the canal. Recovered solid waste should be properly disposed in the Solid Waste Pit or at an approved Land filled site.
- 3.6 Maintain drainage systems capable of handling the probable maximum precipitation storm event.
- 3.7 Ensure the drainage network is kept free of debris and vegetation.
- 3.8 Promote conservation of water resources by minimizing water consumed in the production processes and reusing where possible.
- 3.9 Avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils and other petroleum products. Store all oils, fuel, paints and chemicals in a designated area, 10 m away from watercourses on an impervious base to minimize adverse impacts to the environment in the event of spillage.



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3.10 Conduct equipment refueling and maintenance on an impervious base to prevent fuel spills/leaks. Oil spills should be cleaned-up by the best practicable means, to prevent runoff into the waterways.

## 4.0 AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Ensure that the operation is appropriately enclosed to minimize the impact of dust and ash on the receiving environment. An adequate and efficient dust/ash collection system with extractor and containment bin(s) with the capacity to store approximately seventy-five percent (75%) of all paddy waste (paddy husks, soot, etc.) shall be installed, until such time for disposal. Employ wet suppression methods such as watering to control dust emissions from material stockpiles, dusty roadways and other components of the development that would generate dust.
- 4.2 Use paddy husk as an energy source in the dryers. All efforts should be made for paddy husks to be recovered and appropriately disposed of at a suitable location away from residents or re-used where practical.
- 4.3 Comply with the World Health Organisation (WHO) Air Quality Guidelines for Particulate Matter in the Environment, not exceeding the limits below:

**PM<sub>2.5</sub>:** 10  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> annual mean 25  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> 24-hour mean

**PM**<sub>10</sub>: 20  $\mu$ g/m³ annual mean 50  $\mu$ g/m³ 24-hour mean

- 4.4 Conduct monitoring of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> parameters upwind and downwind of the rice mill, during one milling season and submit data to the Agency within your Annual Report. Additionally, the Agency reserves the right to request additional monitoring upon receipt of the presented report.
- 4.5 Ensure that the operation of all mechanical equipment is done in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. Additionally, ensure that all mechanical equipment and vehicles are regularly maintained and operated at their optimal levels.
- 4.6 Plant and maintain a row of trees or other suitable vegetation at least 26 m on the eastern boundary of the facility to act as a buffer against dust and other air emissions from the operation.

### **5.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT:**

5.1 Ensure that excess paddy husk is captured via a dust exhaust chute, discharged into a containment bin and stored there until time of use. The dust containment bin should be built to store 75% of paddy husk accumulated by the rice mill.

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- 5.2 Ensure that in event of paddy husks/chaff accumulating on site, the heap shall be kept at a height of 4 meters and wet suppression methods shall be used to reduce dust pollution and the transport of paddy chaff to surrounding areas.
- 5.3 Promote proper solid waste management practices in the operation. Provide covered garbage receptacles at strategic locations, both within and outside the Rice Mill and ensure that all solid waste materials are appropriately stored until such time of disposal and/or adequately reuse, recycle and compost waste materials. **Burning of waste is Prohibited**
- 5.4 Ensure that the drainage is kept free flowing and free of debris and vegetation. Regular cleaning of the immediate environment and the drainage network must be maintained.
- 5.5 Ensure excess paddy husk is recovered and appropriately disposed of via a Solid Waste Pit at a suitable location away from residents and/or reused. Options for reuse are described but not limited to those identified below:
  - 1) as bedding for poultry operations;
  - 2) landfill where practical; and or
  - 3) an alternative fuel in the furnaces for the generation of energy at the rice mill.
- 5.6 Maintain records of waste produced within the rice mill in unit/quantity (grams/tonnes) on a monthly basis. This information should be included in the Annual Report submitted to the Agency.
- 5.7 Clean and maintain, receptacles on a regular basis, to prevent the fall or flow of garbage in the surrounding environment and/or attraction of rodents and other vermin.
- 5.8 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 NOISE MANAGEMENT**

- 6.1 Ensure all significant noise-producing equipment, e.g., generators, etc. are 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 requirement.
- 6.2 Comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) Guidelines for the Measurement and Assessment of Noise in the Environment, not exceeding the limits below at a distance of 15 m (50 ft) from the source or at the property boundary, whichever is closer.

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

6.3 Ensure all equipment and machinery is placed on foundation properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations.

## 7.0 FUEL, WASTE OIL & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 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 (please see attached form). The report shall include:
  - (a) the name, location and type of facility;

(b) types and quantities (in metric units) of hazardous waste generated;

(c) manner of storage, use, any applied treatment standards/methods and disposal of these substances;

(d) data concerning off-site shipments of waste, i.e., local disposal facility utilized, country to which hazardous waste is shipped, purpose of shipment and amount of waste shipped;

(e) a summary of any accidents that may have occurred and any action taken;

- (f) any waste minimization efforts undertaken by your facility for hazardous material/waste; and
- (g) any other matter the Agency may require.

The Agency considers all materials listed in Schedule I and II of the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Wastes Management) Regulations, 2000, to be hazardous.

- 7.2 In the event that waste oil (recovered from oil-water separator or from servicing of generators) is stored on site, it should be stored in a covered, bunded area to minimize adverse impacts to the environment in the event of spillage. The bunded area must be labeled and must be able to provide containment for the maximum volume of waste oil on site.
- 7.3 Dispose of all waste oil in accordance with the Environmental Guidelines, 2011 for the 'Removal, Treatment and Disposal of Oily Sludge' (attached) or reuse waste oil as lubricant for chainsaw or other equipment\machinery.
- 7.4 Store all fuel away from ignition sources and have 'No Smoking' signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 7.5 Construct a fuel containment bund with 110 percent containment capacity of the largest storage tank/container, which must have an impervious surface for the handling of all oils, lubricants and fuels.
- 7.6 Ensure that oil/fuel contaminated adsorbent materials are appropriately stored and disposed of by double wrapping in heavy duty garbage bags and dispose of at an approved waste disposal facility. Hazardous contaminated absorbent pads can be disposed of by an authorised Hazardous Waste Disposal company.

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- 7.7 Refrain from draining fuel/lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways.
- 7.8 Hazardous contaminated absorbent pads can be disposed of an incineration operation (see list attached).

#### 8.0 ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY

- 8.1 Treat and contain spills of even a minor nature with absorbent materials.
- 8.2 Provide adequate fire protection measures such as maintaining and placing firefighting equipment such as fire extinguisher, sand bucket, at a visible location on site, in accordance with guidelines established by the Guyana Fire Service.
- 8.3 Ensure that appropriate clean-up equipment such as spill trays, oil spill clean-up recover pump, oil spill dispersant spray system or sorbent pads are readily accessible during refueling exercises.

### 9.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING & REPORTING

- 9.1 Notify the EPA within 24 hours of the occurrence of any spills or accidental release of an environmental contaminant.
- 9.2 Submit to the Agency an approval from the Guyana Fire Service within one (1) week receipt of this Permit.
- 9.3 Acquire a Particulate Matter Meter to monitor limits outlined in Condition 4.4 above at strategic points at the Rice Mill (boundaries and main dust emission sources) and submit results to the Agency quarterly.
- 9.4 Monitor the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties associated with the implementation (operation) of the Project.
- 9.5 Assign an individual responsible for coordinating environmental management, monitoring for compliance, reporting to the EPA, implementing the conditions of this Permit.
- 9.6 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** each year.
- 9.7 Notify the Agency of non-compliance with this permit upon becoming aware of any violation.
- 9.8 Comply with any lawful directions given by the EPA from time-to-time in furtherance of the implementation of any international or other obligations for the

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environmental protection of Guyana.

#### 10.0 LIABILITY FOR POLLUTION DAMAGE

- 10.1 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 authorization which are attributed to any Project (and more specifically petroleum activities). S. 19(1) EP Act, Cap. 20:05.
- 10.2 The Permit Holder shall comply strictly with section 39 (1), (2), (3) and (4) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05.
- 10.3 The Permit Holder shall strictly observe section 19 (3) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05.
- 10.4 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any loss or damage which may arise from the project as a result of the Permit Holder activities or breach of any term or condition of this Permit.

#### 11.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

- 11.1 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.
- 11.2 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.
- 11.3 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.
- 11.4 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 (Renewed), pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 11.5 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 (Renewed), pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

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- 11.6 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.
- 11.7 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.
- 11.8 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.
- 11.9 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.
- 11.10 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.
- 11.11 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.
- 11.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 11.13 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.
- 11.14 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is effective for the period stipulated herein, September 2024 to August 2029.

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

- 11.15 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until August 31, 2029, 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.
- 11.16 This **Environmental Permit (Renewed)** 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 **February 28, 2029.**
- 11.17 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.
- 11.18 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.

by Shanfah Kazadon behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency

Mr. Kemraj Parsrap Executive Director

Date

224 09.24

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

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, best practices, guidelines and standards made under this Act.

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## A. CAYUME HAKH & SONS

## **CANE GROVE RICE MILL**

CANE GROVE, MAHAICA, EAST COAST DEMERARA, GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA

TEL # (592) 228-2987 /FAX # (592) 257-0531 EMAIL feyaadhakh@yahoo.com

25th February, 2025

Environmental Protection Agency
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CENTRIAL REGISTRY

To Whom It May Concern:

Dear Sir / Madam,

I Feyaadul Hakh PP# R1214134, General Manager of A. Cayume Hakh & Sons, hereby authorize Doodnauth Balkisoon ID# 148612440 to pay, sign and uplift the EPA permit for Golden Grove Rice Mill on my behalf.

Please contact me on Tel # 257-0454 for any further information.

Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Yours Sincerely,

Feyaadul Hakh

A.C.H.S Rice

