

Environmental Impacts Screening Decision

Project location and components



Figure 1. The vessel, Paloma 2

The Paloma 2 is a vessel that will be used for Bunkering activities by Aruca Investment. The company will be operating and conducting bunkering activities in Guyana's In-land waters. Diesel fuel imported by Aruca Investment will be collected by Triton Freedom, another vessel owned by Aruca Investment, and transferred to Paloma 2. Paloma 2 has a storage capacity of 140,00 litres and will be delivering fuel to customers' fuel cargo boats or fuel trucks. Aruca Investment expects to facilitate transfer of diesel fuel from ship to ship for customers in the shipping industry. There will be five (5) full time workers maintaining the bunkering activities.

Environmental impact screening

The EPA's screening concludes that there are no identifiable significant environmental impacts, especially on water quality, nor is the project deemed environmentally sensitive. Impacts arising from the operational phase of the bunkering project are minor, localized, and acceptable. An

Environmental Management Plan (EMP) will be prepared to provide measures to monitor, minimise and mitigate potential impacts during the operation.

- Project activities will have minor effects on the existing ecological (flora or fauna) biodiversity of Guyana's water. Impacts on the environment associated with the ship-to-ship fuel transfer will have a neutral to low impact on the water body's fauna and flora due to close monitoring and mitigation efforts required by the EPA.
- There is low to moderate risks from oil spill and due to the stringent measures that will be implemented through monitoring, minimisation and mitigation efforts for the project and the required EMP
- This project is required to prepare an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to manage identified low to moderate environmental impacts arising from the project along with a corresponding schedule and monitoring of mitigation measures to ensure potential impacts are maintained at insignificant levels. It also includes the institutional arrangements for implementing the EMP to ensure its effectiveness.
- Plans to mitigate environmental impact include the use of the Bunkering Plan, Ship-to-Ship Transfer Plan and the Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (SOPEP) which will be utilised as part of the Standard Operation Procedures of the project activity.

Conclusion and recommendations

This project shows no significant impacts nor is it deemed environmentally sensitive. Impacts that may arise from the operational phase of the project are minor and localized. An EMP will be required to provide the set of measures to avoid, minimise, and mitigate any impacts and to include monitoring. The proposed bunkering service will provide improvements to the area's marine operational activities and support Guyana's Economy.