



Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana
Environmental Protection Agency



Environmental Impacts Screening Decision

Project Name: Fay Prescott

Type of Operation: Sand and Loam Mine

Reference NO.: 2021112- PSMLC

Location: P- 174/MP/000 Confluence of the Cheong's Creek and the Arobaio Creek Region 4

Documents submitted

The following documents were submitted along with the Environmental Application.

1. Project Summary
2. Block Description
3. Mining License for block assigned
4. Death certification for Mr. Prescott
5. Letter of administration
6. Notice of Intension to Grant Mining Permit (Medium Scale) from Guyana Geology and Mine Commission.

The documents were reviewed and were found acceptable by the Environmental Protection Agency.

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Maps

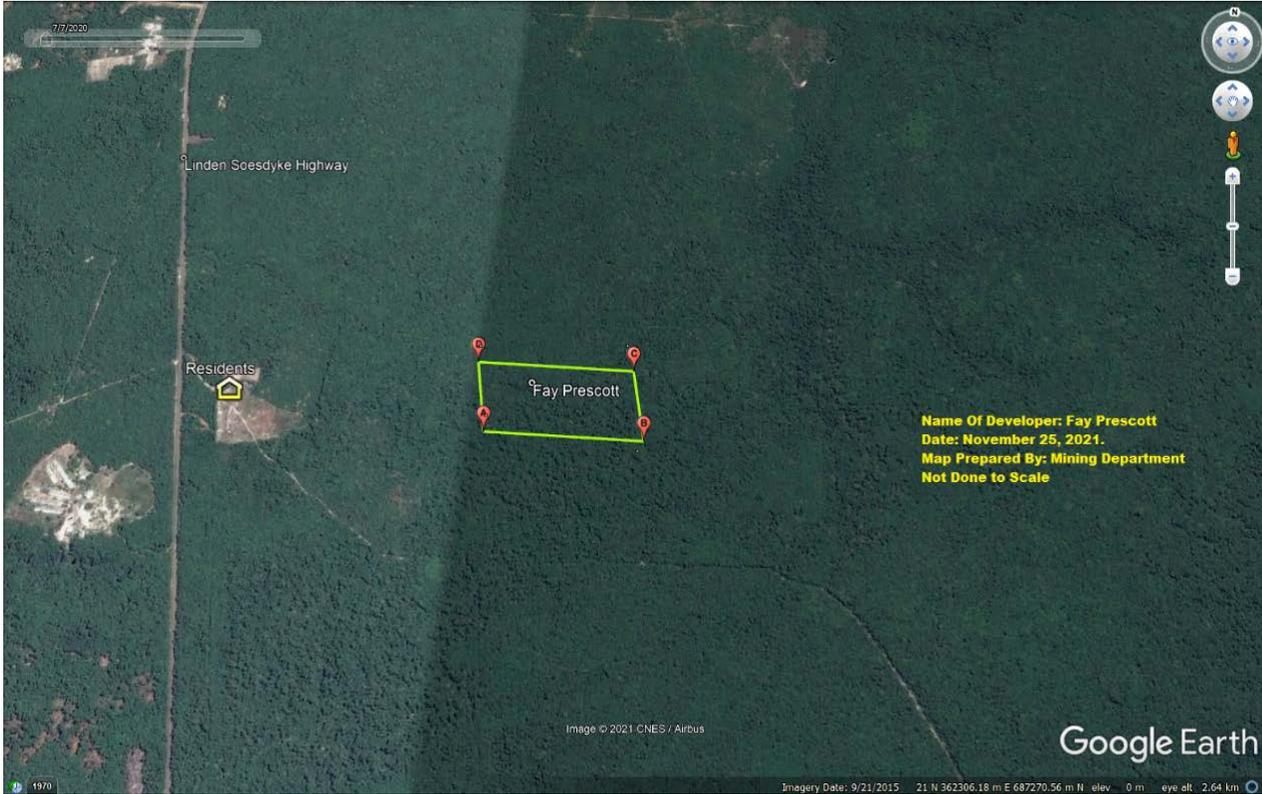


Figure 1

Point A, located at geographical coordinates of longitude **58°14'10"W** and latitude **6°12'29"N**, thence at true bearing of **342°**, for a distance of approximately **223 yards**, to **Point B**, located at geographical coordinates of longitude **58°14'9"W** and latitude **6°12'23"N**, thence at true bearing of **90°**, for a distance of approximately **462 yards**, to **Point C**, located at geographical coordinates of longitude **58°13'55"W** and latitude **6°12'23"N**, thence at true bearing of **168°**, for a distance of approximately **223 yards**, to **Point D**, located at geographical coordinates of longitude **58°13'57"W** and latitude **6°12'29"N**, thence at true bearing of **270°**, for a distance of approximately **462 yards**, to the point of commencement at **Point A**.

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Key Considerations

1. The proposed block is within the Coastal Area (according to the Guyana Geology Mines Commission zoning). The proposed project will disrupt approximately five (5) acres of land. The proposed project intends to utilise 1 % out of the total (21 acres) of the allotted area for clearance and extraction of sand, loam and laterite, establishment of mining pits, and internal road for the operation.
2. Based on the inspection conducted at the proposed location, the project summary and other required supporting documents an EIA will not be required for the proposed project. There are no communities located in close proximity to the proposed project and the area is not suitable for agricultural purposes according to the Guyana Land and Survey Commission (GLSC) no-objection letter. However, the main economic activity in the area is predominantly Sand and Loam mining.
3. As such, the proposed project area, as well as the immediate surroundings of the project site that is, North, South, East and West of the proposed project site are still covered in secondary forest. The area was also allotted for sand and loam mining activities. The main access to the area is a temporary trail allocated for ingress and egress which is approximately 600 metres inland from the Soesdyke Linden Highway.
4. There was no evidence of any surface water body within the boundaries of the proposed project. However, should this be encountered during the preparation, construction or operation phases of the project mitigation measures and alternatives will be taken into consideration during the phases of the establishment.
5. The Mine site is seen to be relatively hilly and as such drainage of the area was observed to be natural.

• Ancillary Services

1. One (1) excavator and sand trucks (unknown amount) will be used upon the establishment of the operation of the sand mining operation. No generator set will be used onsite.
2. No buildings will be constructed for the sand mining operation but there will be a hut for a check point and to make payment for sand being provided onsite. It was not determined what materials the hut will be constructed from but any usable material from land clearance can be used for the construction of the hut.

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Environmental Impact Screening

The EPA's screening concludes that there are no identifiable significant environmental impacts likely to be generated from this project given the proposed mitigation measures. Impacts arising from the construction and operational phases of the project are considered to be minor, localized, and acceptable, and an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) or Environmental Management Plan (EMP) will not be required.

1. Air quality may be affected from combustion gases, dust, and particulates. However, this impact would be within the immediate project environment and may be as a result of transportation and loading of materials. These impacts would be short term and localized to the project site. With the implementation of control measures, such as wet suppression, these impacts can be mitigated.
2. Noise and vibration within the immediate project environment will occur due to heavy machinery usage. However, these impacts would be short term and localised to the project site. With the implementation of control measures, such as buffers, these impacts can be mitigated.
3. Soil degradation due to removal of vegetation and compaction by heavy duty machinery may occur at the Project site.
4. Loss of biodiversity and habitats may occur as a result of vegetation removal and forest fragmentation. Clearing of vegetation in stages and extraction of aggregate in stages will allow for more effective management and control of impacts and reduce habitat destruction. There are no threatened or endangered species nor critical habitats in the area or sensitive species of flora or fauna.

Impact Mitigation

Apart from the project not requiring an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), the following mitigation measures were identified to address potential impacts and includes:

1. Minimizing the Project's footprint and initiating restoration as soon as practicable in temporary work areas will mitigate the impacts to soil and habitats.
2. Minimization of vegetation clearance, construction of sedimentation ponds for storm runoff and implementation of other best management practices for erosion control will adequately mitigate water quality and biodiversity impacts.

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3. Air quality impacts will be mitigated by installation of buffer zones, sound suppression devices and dust suppression mechanism.
4. Land degradation will be mitigated by minimizing vegetation clearance and utilising best management practices for erosion control and backfilling of mined-out pits with overburden through progressive reclamation of the land.

Conclusion and recommendations

The EPA concludes that there are no identifiable significant impacts likely to be generated from the Project. Residual impacts arising from the construction and operational phases of the proposed project are minor, localized, acceptable and mitigable.

The implementation of environmental management practices in-keeping with international standards, best practices of the Mining industry will be required to provide safeguards in relation to potential impacts identified and will be captured in the terms and conditions of the project's Environmental Authorisation.

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