



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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Operation 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.:	20070423 – MDLYO
Fees:	Small (C1) US\$500 Five (5) years i.e. US\$100 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$500 (December, 2020 to November, 2025)

Addressee(s): Mr Michael Sookram
Proprietor
Mike & Daughters Lumber Yard
1, 'C' New Road
Vreed-En-Hoop
West Coast Demerara.

Activity: Operation of a Lumber Yard (Without Processing)

Mr Michael Sookram, trading and operating under the name, Mike and Daughter Lumber Yard, 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 Lumber Yard (Without Processing), located at Lot 1, of 'X' of 3 'A', North Vreed-En-Hoop, West Coast Demerara, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Renewal Application submitted on January 17, 2020, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, existing and/or forthcoming regulations made under the said Act, and/or any other applicable laws, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

This Operation Permit (Renewed) is issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.



Terms and Conditions for Operation to be adhered to by the Permit Holder, His Servants and/or Agents:

1.0 OPERATION

- 1.1 Notify the Agency in writing and obtain its approval for **ANY** proposed changes in operation of the Lumber Yard (Without Processing) at least **fourteen (14) days before making the changes**. The notification shall contain a **description of the proposed change in operation**. It is not necessary to make such a notification if **an Application to vary** this Permit has been made and the Application contains a description of the proposed change. In this condition '**change in operation**' means a change in the nature or functioning, or an extension, of the installation, which may have consequences for the environment, including but not limited to the following:
- i. Change in construction, structure, layout of the facility;
 - ii. Installation of new and/or changes to equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility or operation; and
 - iii. Any technology installed at the facility from which effluent may be discharged.
- 1.2 Maintain adequate fire protection measures such as fire extinguishers and/or sand buckets in accordance with the Guyana Fire Service's approval.
- 1.3 Maintain a valid Fire Safety Certificate issued by the Guyana Fire Service. All firefighting equipment must be maintained and serviced regularly. The Fire Safety Certificate should be presented to officers of the Agency upon request during Compliance Inspections and reported on in **Annual Reports**.
- 1.4 The processing of lumber on site is strictly prohibited.
- 1.5 Ensure that adequate provisions are in place for ingress to and egress from the Project site.
- 1.6 Maintain suitable racks/shelves for storage of lumber of various sizes. Further, ensure that lumber are neatly packed on racks/shelves at all times. These facilities must be so organised that free and adequate passage is maintained. **Over-crowding of the lumber yard and/or over-stacking of lumber are prohibited.**

- 1.7 The loading and offloading of lumber must be done between the hours of **06:00 h - 18:00 h** to minimise disturbance to residents.
- 1.8 Ensure that the transportation of lumber to and from your operation does not impede road traffic. Storage of lumber on the road or government reserve is **prohibited**. Lumber must be contained within the boundaries of the Project site.

2.0 EMPLOYEES

- 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: high-visibility vest, respirator, hard hats, gloves, and appropriate footwear. Ensure the proper utilisation of PPE's during the execution of work onsite. A log for the distribution PPE's to employees must be maintained.
- 2.2 A first aid kit equipped to the Guyana Red Cross standards must be located on site **at all times**. Appropriate communication and transportation systems must be in place to respond to emergencies.
- 2.3 **All** employees **must** be trained in the use of the fire extinguishers and fire-fighting protocol.
- 2.4 All relevant employees must be made aware of the conditions of this Operation Permit and be providing with training on good environmental management practices, inclusive of emergency response. Evidence of such training must be documented and submitted as part of your Annual Reports.

3.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013**.
- 3.2 Maintain good housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices. The aesthetic quality of your surroundings must be maintained at all times.
- 3.3 Covered garbage receptacles must be placed at strategic locations at Project site. All solid waste collected in these receptacles must be appropriately stored until such time for disposal by an approved waste disposal service provider.

3.3.1 The burning of garbage on site is **strictly prohibited**

- 3.4 Drainage system must be adequately maintain and be free of weeds and/ or debris in an effort to minimise flooding.
- 3.5 Maintain a septic tank system at all times which should be accessible for cleaning and de-sludging. Any modification to the Septic Tank (s) 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*.

4.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000 and the Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000.**
- 4.2 Comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) Guidelines for noise emission into the environment, not exceeding the limits below at a distance of 15m (50 ft) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.
 - **Residential Limits 75 dB** (Day-time (06:00 h - 18:00 h))
- 4.3 Ensure that loading and offloading activities are done in such a manner to minimise the release of excessive noise to the surrounding environment.

5.0 COMPLIANCE, MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Operation Permit insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 5.3 Submit to the EPA, **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, *Guidelines for the Preparation of Environmental Annual Reports*).
- 5.4 Inform the Agency prior to or within **thirty (30) days** of any change of name or ownership of the operation.

- 5.5 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.
- 5.6 Notify the EPA **within twenty-four (24) hours** 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.
- 5.7 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with the **Operation Permit:**
 - 5.7.1 Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Operation Permit becomes aware of the non-compliance(s), the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.
 - 5.7.2 Within **seventy-two (72) hours**, submit to the Agency a written report containing a description of the non-compliance(s), its cause and the period of non-compliance including exact dates and time.
 - 5.7.3 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.

6.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND LIABILITIES

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 The EPA reserves the right to review and/or amend the permit conditions and fees attached to this Permit, which also includes the review and/or amendment of permit fees in consideration of any changes in fee structure as determined by the Agency for projects of this nature.
- 6.3 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.

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 s. 38 of 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.

- 6.4 Where it appears to the Agency 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, ordering him to immediately cease the offending activity. (See: s. 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana).
- 6.5 Should the Permit Holder contravene or is likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency (EPA) may serve him an enforcement notice in accordance with s.26 of the EP Act, Cap.20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 6.6 This Operation Permit is not the final consent; all relevant permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.
- 6.7 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) Environmental Protection (EP) Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 6.8 The Permit Holder shall compensate any Party who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the attributed Project. (s. 19(3)(e)) EP Act Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 6.9 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.
- 6.10 This **Operation Permit** is effective for the period stipulated herein, **December, 2020 to November, 2025.**
- 6.11 This **Operation Permit** shall remain valid until **November 30, 2025**, 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, Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

- 6.12 This **Operation Permit** 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 **June 30, 2025**.
- 6.13 Any late submission of renewal application(s) after the specified date as stated above, shall 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.
- 6.14 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to civil penalties and/or injunctive reliefs prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05 and the Environmental Protection Regulations 2000, including under any existing and forthcoming regulations made under the said Act or any other applicable Laws of Guyana.


Signed by  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Ms. Sharifah Razack
Executive Director (ag)

Date: 2020 . 08 . 12

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I hereby accept the above Terms and Conditions upon which this Operation 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 (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, and any forthcoming regulations, best practices, guidelines and standards made under this Act.

NAME:	Michael Soobram
DESIGNATION:	Owner
SIGNATURE:	
DATE:	18/12/2020

