



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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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.:	20191204-SBSDR
Fees:	Small (C1) US\$500 (5 years) i.e. US\$100 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$500 (June , 2022 to May , 2027)

Addressee(s): Mr. Sheldon Benjamin
Proprietor
S.Benjamin & Son
Lot 3 Coverden,
East Bank Demerara.

Activity: Operation of a Sawmill

Mr. Sheldon Benjamin, trading and operating under the name, S. Benjamin & Son, 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 Sawmill, located at Vreed-en-Rust Demerara River, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Application submitted on December 04, 2019, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act Cap. 20:05, 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.

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

1.0 OPERATION

- 1.1 Make an application to the Agency to vary this Permit in instances where it becomes necessary to:
 - i. Changes 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;
 - iii. Any technology used or installed at the facility from which effluent may be emitted from; and
 - iv. Any other variance prescribed by Regulation 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.3 Discharge logs safely through the use of appropriate equipment i.e., log extractor at the Sawmill to ensure logs do not free fall from haulers to the ground causing vibration and excessive damage to soils and on vegetation etc.
- 1.4 Ensure that adequate provisions are in place for ingress and egress to the site.
- 1.5 Load and offload lumber between 06:00 h to 18:00 h to avoid disturbance to residents.

2.0 EMPLOYEES

- 2.1 Comply with the requirements of the **Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap. 99:01, Laws of Guyana.**
- 2.1.1 Provide employees with the necessary protective equipment to fit their job specification.
 - 2.1.2 Provide first aid kit/s equipped according to the Guyana Red Cross standards which shall include a snake bite kit.
 - 2.1.3 Provide communication and transportation systems to respond to emergencies.
- 2.2 Make all employees/third party contractors aware of the Conditions of this Environmental Permit and provide training on good environmental management practices. A training report shall be kept and submitted upon Officers' request during a Compliance Inspection.

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, and the aesthetic quality of your surroundings at all times.

- 3.3 Ensure effective management of recoverable materials and that all waste generated by the project is in accordance with s. 19(1),(2) and (3) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 3.4 Promote proper solid waste management and disposal practices on site. Covered garbage receptacles must be placed at strategic locations at the facility. Waste must be collected and disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility. Waste shall not be disposed of in or near the waterways. Reduction and reuse of waste should be promoted.
- 3.5 At all times, the environs for receptacles should be cleaned and maintained on a regular basis, to prevent the fall or flow of garbage in the surrounding environment and/or attraction of rodents and other vermin.
- 3.6 Maintain a dust containment bin to store all wood waste (sawdust and shavings).
- 3.7 Ensure wood waste such as sawdust, shaving, wood ends, etc. are recovered and appropriately disposed of at a dumpsite/landfill or reused. Reuse options include but are not limited to:
 - 3.7.1 Poultry bedding;
 - 3.7.2 Mulching; and
 - 3.7.3 Landfill where practical.

4.0 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- 4.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000.**
- 4.2 Construct and maintain 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.
- 4.3 There shall be no release of any pollutants (i.e. fuel, waste oil) to ground water or soil from permitted installation. Accidental release of pollutants to soil and waterways must be recorded and reported **within twenty-four (24) hours** to the Agency for further investigation.
- 4.4 Refrain from draining fuel/lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways.

5.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000 and the Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000.**
- 5.2 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.
- **Industrial Limits 100 dB** (Day-time (06:00 h - 18:00 h))
- 5.3 Ensure all equipment and machinery are placed on foundations properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations.
- 5.4 Ensure that all sound-making devices, e.g. generators, planers, etc. are suitably enclosed in structures constructed with materials of good noise insulation properties (e.g. hollow concrete blocks, insulation boards, solid clay bricks) and are equipped with silencers or mufflers to reduce the noise level.
- 5.5 Implement all possible measures such as, ensuring equipment is serviced and operated according to manufacturer's recommendations to minimise the impact of sound levels on the environment.
- 5.6 Take all reasonable precautions to prevent wood dust from becoming airborne.
- 5.7 Reduce the speed limits during dry periods to minimise dust generation on routes traversed by vehicles.

6.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 Monitor the implementation of the Conditions of this Environmental Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 6.3 Submit to the EPA, the **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.
- 6.4 Conform to all terms and conditions under which this Environmental Permit is granted and the Permit Holder shall be liable for any loss or damage which arises

from the project as a result of the Permit Holder's activities or breach of any term or condition of this Permit.

- 6.5 Inform the Agency prior to or within **thirty (30) days** of any change of name or ownership of the operation.
- 6.6 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.
- 6.7 Notify the EPA **within one (1) hour** 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.
- 6.8 Report to the Agency any non-compliance with the Environmental Permit as follows:
 - 6.8.1 Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Permit Holder becomes aware of the non-compliance, the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.
 - 6.8.2 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.
 - 6.8.3 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.

7.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 7.1 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.
- 7.2 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.
- 7.3 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 minimize any resulting adverse effect, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.4 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

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Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

- 7.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 8.3 and 8.4 of this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.6 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.
- 7.7 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.
- 7.8 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.
- 7.9 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.
- 7.10 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, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 7.11 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.

- 7.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 7.13 **This Environmental Permit is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 7.14 This Environmental Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein; **June, 2022 to May, 2027.**
- 7.15 This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **May 31, 2022**, 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.
- 7.16 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 **November 30, 2026.**
- 7.17 Any late submission of renewal application (s) after the specified date as stated above, may require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to renewal fee, a late penalty fee (accruing at the time such obligation was first owed for renewal) at a rate of **two thousand dollars (GY\$2000.00) 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.
- 7.18 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 other applicable Laws of Guyana.

Signed by _____
Agency.


Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director


Date 2022.06.09



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

NAME:	SHELDON BENJAMIN
DESIGNATION:	DWAIR
SIGNATURE:	
DATE:	20/03/2023 -