



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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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.:	20060406-TRSLs
Fees:	Small (C1) US\$500 (5 years) i.e. US\$100 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$500 (April 2023 to March 2028)

Addressee(s): Mr. Tamesh Seekumar
Proprietor, T. Seekumar and Daughter Sawmill
Lonsdale Village
East Bank Berbice

Activity: Operation of a Sawmill

Mr. Tamesh Seekumar, trading and operating under the name, T. Seekumar and Daughter Sawmill, 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 Lonsdale Village, East Bank Berbice, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Renewal Application submitted on February 22, 2023, 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 Environmental Permit (Renewed) is issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

The Permit Holders, His Servants, Agents, and/or Sub-Contractors shall comply with the following Terms and Conditions:

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.
- 1.2 Ensure that adequate provisions are in place for ingress and egress at the site.
- 1.3 Load and offload lumber between **06:00 h to 18:00 h** to avoid disturbance to residents.

2.0 EMPLOYEES

- 2.1 Adhere to 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 specifications.
 - 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 the Environmental Permit (Renewed) and provide training on good environmental management practices. A training report shall be kept and submitted upon the Officers' request during a Compliance Inspection.

3.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT & HAZARDOUS WASTE/ MATERIAL MANAGEMENT

- 3.1. Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013, where applicable.**
- 3.2. Maintain good housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices, and the aesthetic quality of your surroundings at all times.
- 3.3. All sawdust, shavings, and wood ends shall be managed in a manner approved by the EPA. At no time should there be **ANY** open storage of dust/wood

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shavings.

- 3.4. Promote proper solid waste management and disposal practices on site.
 - 3.4.1. Place covered garbage receptacles at strategic locations at the facility.
 - 3.4.2. Waste shall be collected and disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility.
 - 3.4.3. Waste shall not be disposed of in or near the waterways.
- 3.5. Promote waste reduction and reuse. Wood waste such as sawdust, shaving, wood ends, etc. shall be recovered and or reused. Reuse options include the following but are not limited to:
 - i. Poultry bedding;
 - ii. Mulching for gardens; and
 - iii. Landfill.
- 3.6 Open Burning of waste is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.
- 3.7 Waste oil stored on site that was recovered from an oil-water separator or servicing of generators, shall be stored in a covered, bunded area to minimize adverse impacts to the environment in the event of a spillage. The bunded area must be clearly labeled and can provide 110% containment of the total volume of waste oils stored.
- 3.8 Containers containing oil/fuel of any sort must always be covered and placed in a bunded area that can contain 110% of the total capacity of that container.
- 3.9 Oil/fuel-contaminated absorbent materials shall be appropriately stored and disposed of by double wrapping them in heavy-duty garbage bags. All contaminated absorbent materials shall be treated by an Agency approved Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility prior to disposal at an Agency approved location.
- 3.10 Store all fuel away from ignition sources and have 'No Smoking' signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 3.11 Refrain from draining fuel or lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from the equipment onto the ground or into surface water.

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.

- **Industrial Limits 100 dB** (Day-time (06:00 h - 18:00 h))

4.3 Enclose all sound-making devices, e.g. generators in suitable structures constructed with materials of good noise insulation properties (e.g. hollow concrete blocks, insulation boards, solid clay bricks), and equipped with silencers or mufflers to reduce the noise level.

4.4 Place all equipment on foundations properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations.

4.5 Service and operate equipment according to the manufacturer's recommendations to minimise the impact of sound levels on the environment.

4.6 Take all reasonable precautions to prevent wood dust from becoming airborne.

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 Submit an **Annual Report** to the EPA on your compliance with this Environmental Permit (Renewed) on or before **March 31, each year**.

5.3 Submit to the EPA an Emergency Response Plan for the operation of the sawmill within **thirty (30) days** after the issuance of this Environmental Permit (Renewed).

5.4 All near misses, spills, and unwanted/accidental discharges, **amounting to less than imperial five (5) gallons**, must be recorded and reported to the Agency as a component of the Annual Report as required in Condition 5.3.

5.5 Discharges of contaminants **amounting to five (5) imperial gallons or more** must be reported to the Agency by submitting an "Incident Notification Form for Spills in Onshore Operations" using the most recent template provided by the Agency, **within twelve (12) hours of the incident**. A follow-up incident notification form shall be submitted **within seventy-two (72) hours of the submission of the initial notification form**.

- 5.6 Notify the Agency in writing of any change of name or ownership of the Permit Holder's facility within **thirty (30) days** after the change occurs.
- 5.7 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.
- 5.8 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency within one (1) hour of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies (e.g. oil spills, hazardous materials/wastes spill, sudden onset disaster, natural, technological or human-induced factors that cause or threaten to cause severe environmental damage as well as harm to human health or livelihood).
- 5.9 Report to the Agency any non-compliance with the Environmental Permit (Renewed):
 - i. Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit (Renewed) becomes aware of the non-compliance outlining the anticipated manner in which human health or the environment may be impacted.
 - ii. Within **seventy-two (72) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit (Renewed) becomes aware of the non-compliance, submit to the Agency a written report containing a description of the non-compliance, its cause, the period of non-compliance including exact dates and time and the anticipated time it is expected to continue if the non-compliance(s) has not been corrected.

6.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 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.
- 6.3 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.

- 6.4 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.
- 6.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 6.3 and 6.4 of this Environmental Permit (Renewed), pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 6.6 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.
- 6.7 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.
- 6.8 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.
- 6.9 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.
- 6.10 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.
- 6.11 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

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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.

- 6.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 6.13 **This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 6.14 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is effective for the period stipulated herein; **April 2023 to March 2028.**
- 6.15 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until **March 31, 2028**, 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.
- 6.16 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 **September 30, 2027.**
- 6.17 Any late submission of renewal application (s) after the specified date as stated above, may require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to 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 (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.
- 6.18 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.

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

Signed by *Shanfah Lajack* on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency: **Kemraj Parsram**
for **Executive Director**
 Executive Director

Date 2023.04.19

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 and standards made under this Act.

NAME:	<i>JAMESH SEEKUMAR</i>
DESIGNATION:	<i>Business owner</i>
SIGNATURE:	<i>Jamesh Seekumar</i>
DATE:	<i>2023/08/08</i>

