



**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.

<b>Reference No.:</b>	<b>20120705-VSBSO</b>
<b>Fee:</b>	<b>Small (C2) US\$ 175 per year</b>
<b>Fees Paid:</b>	<b>US \$875 for five (5) years (June 2024 – May 2029)</b>
<b>Addressee(s):</b>	<b>Mr. Vishal Singh Proprietor Vishal Singh and Sons Business Enterprise Plot Z Track Y, Grant 1780 Crabwood Creek Corentyne Berbice</b>
<b>Activity:</b>	<b>Operation of a Sawmill</b>

Vishal Singh and Sons Enterprise 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 Plot Z Track Y, Grant 1780, Crabwood Creek, Corentyne, Berbice, hereinafter referred to as the “Project”, in a manner indicated in the Renewal Application submitted on November 29, 2023, 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.

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

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

*Ray Depaul*  
2024/02/28

becomes necessary to:

- i. Changes in construction, structure, and 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 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.
- 1.3 Ensure that adequate provisions are in place for ingress and egress to the site.
- 1.4 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.
  - 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**

Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013.**

- 3.1 Maintain good housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices, and the aesthetic quality of your surroundings at all times.

**3.2 Promote proper solid waste management and disposal practices on site:**

- 3.2.1 Covered garbage receptacles must be placed at strategic locations at the facility.
  - 3.2.2 Waste must be collected and disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility.
  - 3.2.3 Waste shall not be disposed of in or near the waterways. Reduction and reuse of waste should be promoted.
- 3.3 Maintain a dust containment bin to store all wood waste (sawdust and shavings).
- 3.4 For mills that are not equipped to be attached to an extractor system, collect/bag and remove sawdust from the mill floor; sawdust should not be allowed to accumulate to a height of more than 15 cm (6 inches) on the mill floor.
- 3.5 At no time should there be **ANY** open storage of dust/shaving etc. Additionally, disposal of sawdust/wood waste in the Corentyne River is **prohibited**.
- 3.6 Ensure wood waste such as sawdust, shaving, wood ends, etc. is recovered and appropriately disposed of at a dumpsite/landfill or reused. Reuse options include but are not limited to:
- 3.6.1 Poultry bedding;
  - 3.6.2 Mulching; and
  - 3.6.3 Landfill where practical.

**4.0 AIR QUALITY & NOISE MANAGEMENT**

Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000, and the Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000.**

- 4.1 Comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Guidelines for Noise Emission into the Environment*, not exceeding the limits at a distance of 15 metres (50 feet) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.
- Industrial Limits: **100 dB (Daytime Limits 06:00 h-18:00 h)**
- 4.2 Ensure all equipment and machinery are placed on foundations properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations.

- 4.3 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.
- 4.4 Implement all possible measures such as ensuring equipment is serviced and operated according to the manufacturer's recommendations to minimise the impact of sound levels on the environment.
- 4.5 Take all reasonable precautions to prevent wood dust from becoming airborne.
- 4.6 Reduce the speed limits during dry periods to minimise dust generation on routes traversed by vehicles.

## **5.0 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000.**

- 5.1 Construct and maintain a 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.
- 5.2 There shall be no release of any pollutants (i.e. fuel, waste oil) to groundwater 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.
- 5.3 Refrain from draining fuel/lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways.
- 5.4 The Permit Holder shall maintain oil-water separators at strategic locations on the storage facility through which all effluents shall pass before the final discharge point.

## **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 (Renewed), 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 (Renewed) 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 the 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 (Renewed) 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 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 Regulations, 2000.
- 7.2 The EPA reserves the right to review and/or amend the 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.

- 7.3 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 7.4 The Permit Holder, His Servants, Agents, and/or Sub-Contractor(s) 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 offense 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.
- 7.5 The Permit Holder, his Servants, Agents, and/or Sub-Contractors while executing the activities attributable to the project shall be strictly jointly and severally liable as follows:
- a. For any activity that causes, or is likely to cause pollution of the environment, unless all reasonable and practicable measures were taken to prevent or minimise any resulting adverse effect, in accordance with Section 19(1)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
  - b. For any activity which results in the discharge, release, or entry into the environment of any contaminant in any amount, concentration, or level in excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by this Permit, in accordance with Section 19(1)(b) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05 Laws of Guyana.
  - c. The discharge or release of contaminants, such as wood waste, industrial chemicals, lubricants, fuel, chemicals, hazardous materials, or other wastes relative to the Project, which are not regulated herein, or permitted to be discharged herein, are strictly prohibited. Any such discharge or release shall be deemed a violation of Section 19(1)(a) and/or Section 19(1)(b) of the Environmental Protection Act.
  - d. For the compensation of any Party who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the project. (s.19(3)(e)) Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

- e. For any material or serious environmental harm caused by pollution of the environment intentionally or recklessly in accordance with section 39 (1), (2), (3), and (4) of the Environmental Protection Act, 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
  - f. Any gross negligence or wilful misconduct resulting in serious risk, or adverse effects to the surrounding environment, biodiversity, protected species, and natural habitat with respect to any release or discharge, spill, contaminant fluids, oil, or lubricants from any facilities permitted under this project.
  - g. For the payment of all costs and expenses related to the assessment of damage and investigations required, as a result of any pollution incidents attributable or likely to be attributable to the activity for which this Permit has been issued.
- 7.6 All relevant permissions, approvals, and supporting documentation must be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation, and subsequently maintained.**
- 7.7 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's lack of due care and diligence.
- 7.8 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 serious pollution of the environment or any damage to public health, the EPA may issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice to immediately cease the offending activity, in accordance with Section 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.9 Should the Permit Holder contravene or is 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.
- 7.10 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is effective for the period stipulated herein **June 2024 – May 2029**, and shall remain valid until **May 31, 2029**, unless otherwise modified, cancelled, suspended, or revoked 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.



- 7.11 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, 2028**.
- 7.12 Should there be any late submission of the renewal application after the specified date as stated above, the Agency 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.
- 7.13 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to penalties prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, including civil penalties and injunctive relief.

Signed by  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

**Kemraj Parsram**  
Executive Director

Date 2023. 12. 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>Vishal Singh</i>
DESIGNATION	<i>Owner</i>
SIGNATURE	<i>P.A. [Signature]</i>
DATE	<i>2024/02/28</i>

