



**Environmental  
Protection  
Agency**

Ganges Street, Sophia,  
Georgetown, GUYANA  
Tel.: (592)-225-5467 / 5468 / 5469  
Fax: (592) 225-5481  
Email: [epa@epaguyana.org](mailto:epa@epaguyana.org)  
Website: [www.epaguyana.org](http://www.epaguyana.org)

## **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.

<b>Reference No.:</b>	<b>20240206-AYRBY</b>
<b>Fee:</b>	<b>Small (C2) US\$175 per year</b>
<b>Fees Paid:</b>	<b>US\$ 875: Five (5) years (June 2024 – May 2029)</b>
<b>Addressee(s):</b>	<b>Mr. Azim Yunus and Mrs. Robina Basdeo Yunus Proprietors Art Sawmilling Enterprise Tract 'AY' Mudlot 37, Stanleytown New Amsterdam Berbice</b>
<b>Activity:</b>	<b>Operation of Sawmill and Lumber Yard</b>

Mr. Azim Yunus and Mrs. Robina Basdeo Yunus, trading and operating under the name, Art Sawmilling Enterprise, hereinafter referred to as the Permit "Holder", are 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 and Lumber Yard, located at Tract 'AY' Mudlot 37, Stanleytown, New Amsterdam, Berbice, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Renewal Application submitted on February 06, 2024, 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 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 The Permit Holder shall notify the Agency in writing and obtain its approval for ANY proposed changes to the operation at least **fourteen (14) calendar days**

**Environmental Permit - Ref. No.: 20240206-AYRBY**

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.

before making the change. 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 of the facility, or an extension, or any additional installation, which may have consequences for the environment. Changes to operation may include but not be limited to the following:

- i. changes in the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and all associated buildings;
  - ii. changes of equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanisms, systems or technology serving the facility;
  - iii. changes in the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents; or
  - iv. any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.2 Discharge logs safely through the use of appropriate equipment i.e., a 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 vegetation, etc.
- 1.3 Maintain adequate provisions for ingress and egress at the site.
- 1.4 Storage of lumber on the road/Government reserve and other roadways is **strictly prohibited**.
- 1.5 Load and offload lumber between **06:00 h to 18:00 h** to avoid disturbance to residents.
- 1.6 The Permit Holder shall maintain suitable storage facilities (racks and shelves) for lumber. These facilities must be so organised that free and adequate passage is maintained. Over-crowding of the lumber yard and over-stacking of lumber are prohibited.

## **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.



**Environmental Permit - Ref. No.: 20240206-AYRBY**

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.

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 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 Open Burning of waste is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**

3.4 All wood waste such as sawdust, shaving, wood ends, etc. shall be recovered and appropriately disposed of at a dumpsite/landfill or reused. Reuse options include but are not limited to:

3.4.1 Poultry bedding;

3.4.2 Mulching; and

3.4.3 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.**



**Environmental Permit - Ref. No.: 20240206-AYRBY**

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.

- 4.1 The Permit Holder shall ensure that the dust suppression methods selected are practised to minimize dust from becoming airborne from the sawmill, lumber yard, and/or any component with the potential to generate significant dust.
- 4.2 The Permit Holder shall ensure that a dust collection system equipped with extractor fans and a containment bin shall be installed and maintained. The containment bin must be appropriately sized to accommodate the storage of a minimum of 75% of wood waste (sawdust and shaving) generated during operation.
- 4.3 The Permit Holder shall ensure that exhaust stacks are at least two (2) meters above the tallest nearby building to minimise adverse fumes/soot impacts to the contiguous areas.
- 4.4 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.
  - **Residential Limits: 75 dB (Daytime Limits: 06:00 h-18:00 h)**
- 4.5 The Permit Holder shall ensure that all significant noise-producing equipment, e.g. generators, etc. are equipped with appropriate silencers or mufflers and/or are enclosed in suitable acoustic enclosures where necessary to reduce noise levels impacting the surrounding environment to achieve compliance with GNBS requirements.
- 4.6 The Permit Holder shall ensure all equipment and machinery are placed on a foundation properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations.
- 4.7 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.

## **5.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT**

The Permit Holder shall comply with the provisions of **the Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.**

- 5.1 **The disposal or deposit** of solid waste (such as sawdust, and wood shaving) into drains and/or untreated effluent directly into the surrounding waterways is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**



**Environmental Permit - Ref. No.: 20240206-AYRBY**

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.

- 5.2 Install oil-water separators at designated sites through which all effluent (oily water) must pass before final discharge into receiving waters.
- 5.3 Refrain from draining fuel/lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from the equipment onto the ground or into waterways.
- 5.4 Maintain a dust containment bin to store all wood waste (sawdust and shavings). The bin shall be installed at least 30 metres away from the Berbice River.
- 5.5 The Permit Holder shall maintain all drainage networks in and around the facility and shall be kept free of debris and/or vegetation.
- 5.6 The Permit Holder shall maintain the integrity of the existing waterways at all times. Discharges into the environment should be in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards Interim Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment. The following maximum allowable limits should not be exceeded:
  - pH 5.0-9.0;
  - Oil and Grease < 10 mg/L; and
  - Total Dissolved Solid (TDS) < 40 mg/L
- 5.7 The Permit Holder shall conduct water quality monitoring of the parameters listed in **condition 5.6 on an annual basis and submit reports to the EPA**. The sample points must be the final discharge point(s) from the facility.

**6.0 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/ HAZARDOUS WASTE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT**

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

- 6.1 The Permit Holder shall store all fuel away from ignition sources and have "No Smoking" signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 6.2 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.
- 6.3 The Permit Holder shall ensure that engine oil, grease, and paint used shall be stored within secondary containment (bund area) to minimise the spread/ release of spillage from the storage area.



**Environmental Permit - Ref. No.: 20240206-AYRBY**

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.

6.4 The Permit Holder shall maintain a supply of relevant oil-absorbent materials such as absorbent pads, sand, etc., at the site for the clean-up of spills. Used adsorbent materials are stored and disposed of in a manner approved by the EPA. Used pads can be stored in bonded areas until appropriately disposed of.

**7.0 SPILLS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

7.1 The Permit Holder shall employ and maintain appropriate procedures in keeping with good international industry practice (GIIP) to minimize spill risks, detect leaks, capture spills, and minimize the release of hydrocarbons during transport/transfer, resale, and other Project-related activities.

7.2 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency within one (1) hour of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies (e.g., oil spills, hazardous materials/wastes spills, 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).

7.3 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.

7.4 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 forty-eight (48) 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 (a total of five days after the discharge of the contaminants).

7.5 The Permit Holder shall establish procedures for analyzing accidents and failures to determine the causes of the failure and minimize the possibility of a recurrence. This information shall be made available to the Agency upon request.

7.6 The Permit Holder shall prepare and submit an **Emergency Response Plan (ERP)** for the sawmill and lumber yard. The ERP shall contain, but may not be restricted to the following:

- i. Spill detection and mitigation procedures;
- ii. Escape, evacuation, and rescue plan and assessment;
- iii. A list of responsible parties and duties;
- iv. A list of regulatory agencies to be notified;
- v. Names and addresses of response organizations;
- vi. Training procedures;
- vii. A list of equipment to be utilized;

**Environmental Permit - Ref. No.: 20240206-AYRBY**

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.

- viii. Testing procedures to ensure that the equipment to be used remains in working condition; and
- ix. Clean up and hazardous waste disposal procedures.

7.7 The Permit Holder shall annually simulate the entire ERP with relevant stakeholders as directed and/or approved by the Agency. The Agency reserves the right to attend any exercise organised in accordance with this Condition.

## **8.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING**

8.1 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.

8.2 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.

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

8.4 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.

8.5 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.

8.6 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).

8.7 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,

**Environmental Permit - Ref. No.: 20240206-AYRBY**

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.

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.

**9.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES**

- 9.1 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.
- 9.2 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.
- 9.3 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.
- 9.4 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.
- 9.5 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 (Renewed), pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 9.6 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.
- 9.7 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.



**Environmental Permit - Ref. No.: 20240206-AYRBY**

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.

- 9.8 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.
- 9.9 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.
- 9.10 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.
- 9.11 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.
- 9.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 9.13 **This Environmental Permit is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 9.14 This Environmental Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein; **June 2024 to May 2029.**
- 9.15 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until **May 31, 2029**, 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.
- 9.16 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, 2028.**

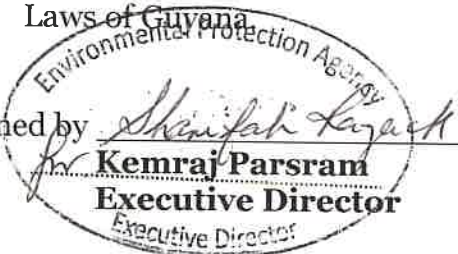


**Environmental Permit - Ref. No.: 20240206-AYRBY**

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.

9.17 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.

9.18 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

Signed by  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.  
**Kemraj Parsram**  
Executive Director

Date 2024.05.22

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	ROBINA BASBED YUNUS
DESIGNATION	OWNER
SIGNATURE	Robina Basbed Yunus
DATE	May 22 2024

