



Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana
Environmental Protection Agency



January 14, 2025

Reference No: 20230922-SFGIL

Zhiyum Gao
Director
Surich Forest (Guy) Inc. Lumber Yard
267 Green Acres, Providence
East Bank Demerara



Dear Mr. Zhiyum Gao,

Re: Environmental Permit for the Operation of a Lumberyard (Without Processing)

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has prepared an Environmental Permit for the operation of a Lumberyard (Without Processing), at Plot X Section A New Hope East Bank Demerara.

Please sign the Environmental Permit to indicate your acceptance of its terms and conditions and agreement to comply with the statutory requirements of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana and its regulations. Please see attached document to assist with achieving compliance with the Environmental Permit.

The cost of the Permit for Two (2) years is **USD\$200 (US\$100 per year)**. You are required to pay this fee or its equivalent in Guyana dollars using the Bank of Guyana daily exchange rate. Payments should be made to the Environmental Protection Agency in Cash, Manager's or Personal Cheque in Guyana dollars. Please note Personal Cheques in United States Dollars will **NOT** be accepted.

Should you have any questions or need clarification, please do not hesitate to make contact with **Ms. Karen Small of the Forestry Department** on telephone number 225- 4572 (Ext 2307) or email ksmall@epaguyana.org.

Yours sincerely,


.....
Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director



Attach. Guidelines for the Preparation of Environmental Report

Cc: Mr. Edward Goberdhan - Commissioner of Forests (Ag), Guyana Forestry Commission

Ganges St., Sophia, Georgetown, GUYANA.

Tel: (592) 225-5467/5471-5472/6044/6048 | Fax: 225-5481

 epa@epaguyana.org |  www.epaguyana.org |  Environmental Protection Agency - Guyana

"The Environment is Everybody's Business"



Environmental Protection Agency

Ganges Street, Sophia,
Georgetown, GUYANA
Tel.: (592)-225-5467 / 5468 / 5469
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Website:
<http://www.epaguyana.org>
Email: epa@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.

Reference No.:	20230922-SFGIL
Fees:	Small (C1) US\$200 (2 years) i.e. US\$100 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$200 (January, 2025 to, December 2026)

Addressee(s): Zhiyum Gao
Director
Surich Forest (Guy) Inc. Lumber Yard
267 Green Acres, Providence
East Bank Demerara

Activity: Operation of Lumberyard (Without Processing)

Mr. Zhiyum Gao, trading and operating under the name, Surich Forest (Guy) Inc. Lumber Yard, herein 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), only buying and selling of lumber, Plot X Section A New Hope East Bank Demerara, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Application submitted on September 22, 2023, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, existing or forthcoming regulations made under the said Act and/or any other applicable Laws of Guyana, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

The Permit Holder, 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 Environmental Permit instances where it becomes necessary to:

- i. Change the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and all associated buildings;
- ii. Change equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility;
- iii. Change the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents; or
- iv. Affect any other change outlined in 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 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 the 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 Promote proper solid waste management and disposal practices on site.
 - 3.3.1 Place covered garbage receptacles at strategic locations at the facility.

- 3.3.2. Waste shall be collected and disposed at an approved waste disposal facility.
- 3.3.3. Waste shall not be disposed in or near the waterways.

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: 75dB** (Day-time (06:00 h - 18:00 h))

- 4.3 Implement all possible measures to minimise the impact of sound levels on the 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 Environmental Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 The Permit Holder shall submit to the EPA, the renewed copy of the Tenancy Agreement **within three (3) months**, after the expiration of the current Tenancy Agreement.
- 5.5 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.
- 5.6 Inform the Agency prior to or within **thirty (30) days** of any change of name or ownership of the operation.

- 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 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.
- 5.9 Report to the Agency any non-compliance with the Environmental Permit as follows:
- 5.9.1 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.
 - 5.9.2 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.
 - 5.9.3 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/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 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, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 6.3 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 6.1 and 6.2 of this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 6.4 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.

- 6.5 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.
- 6.6 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.
- 6.7 The EPA reserves the right to enter at any time the permitted facility and 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.
- 6.8 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 6.9 **This Environmental Permit is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 6.10 This Environmental Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein; **January, 2024 to, December 2026.**
- 6.11 This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **December 31, 2026**, 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 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 **June 30, 2026.**
- 6.13 Any late submission of renewal application after the specified date as stated above, the Agency may require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to renewal fee, a late penalty fee (accruing at the time such obligation was

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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.

- 6.14 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 *Shanfah Laya* on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director

Executive Director

Date 2025-01-15

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:	<i>Fahnceza Seepersaud</i>
DESIGNATION:	<i>Admin clerk</i>
SIGNATURE:	<i>Seepersaud</i>
DATE:	<i>20th January, 2025</i>

