



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



January 14, 2025

Ref. No.: 20230308-KHYCA

**Kesisha Higgins**  
**Chairman**  
**Yarrowkabra Coal Burners Association**  
**Yarrowkabra, Western side of the Soesdyke**  
**Linden Highway.**

Dear Ms. Higgins,

**Re: Environmental Permit for the Production of Charcoal (Pit) and**  
**Charcoal Briquettes**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has prepared an Environmental Permit for the Production of Charcoal (Pit) and Charcoal Briquettes at Tract 'YCBA' Yarrowkabra, Western side of the Soesdyke Linden Highway, situated on the on the East Bank Demerara River Region 4.

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, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000. Please see attached document to assist with achieving compliance with the Environmental Permit.

The cost of the Permit for five (5) years is **USD\$875 (i.e., US\$175 per year)**. **You are required to pay this fee or its equivalent in Guyana dollars using the Bank of Guyana Inc. 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](mailto:ksmall@epaguyana.org).

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
29 Jan 25  
*[Signature]*

Ganges St., Sophia, Georgetown, GUYANA.

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



[epa@epaguyana.org](mailto:epa@epaguyana.org)



[www.epaguyana.org](http://www.epaguyana.org)



Environmental Protection Agency - Guyana

**"The Environment is Everybody's Business"**





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

---



Yours Sincerely,



Attach: Guidelines for the preparation of Environmental Annual Reports

**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](mailto:epa@epaguyana.org) |  [www.epaguyana.org](http://www.epaguyana.org) |  Environmental Protection Agency - Guyana

**“The Environment is Everybody’s Business”**

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL







## **Environmental Protection Agency**

Ganges Street, Sophia,  
Georgetown, GUYANA  
Tel.: (592)-225-5467 / 5468 /  
5469  
Fax: (592) 225-5481  
Website:  
<http://www.epaguyana.org>  
Email: [epa@epaguyana.org](mailto: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.:	20230308-KHYCA
Fees:	Small (C2) US\$875 (5 years) i.e., US\$175 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$875 (January, 2025 to December, 2029)

**Addressee(s):** Keisha Higgins  
Chairman  
Yarrowkabra Coal Burners Association  
Yarrowkabra, Western side of the Soesdyke  
Linden Highway

**Activity:** Production of Charcoal (Via Pit) and Charcoal  
Briquettes

Yarrowkabra Coal Burners Association, herein referred to as the "Permit Holder", is hereby authorised in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, to produce (via Pit production) and Charcoal Briquettes at located at Tract 'YCBA' Yarrowkabra, the Western side of the Soesdyke Linden Highway, situated on the on the East Bank Demerara River, Region 4, hereinafter referred to as "the Project", in the manner indicated in the Application submitted on 08 March, 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.

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

*[Handwritten signature and stamp]*

## **1.0 OPERATION**

1.1 Make an application to the Agency to vary this Environmental Permit in 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) Regulation

1.2 Area cleared for pit burning should be well drained, leveled and should not be more than six (6) meters in diameter for easy mobility.

1.3 Ensure dug pits are refilled after use. Rain water should be diverted from the used pit, so as to avoid pest/insect infestations as well as mal-odour from leachate.

1.4 Water pipes with hose connections should be available at different points, in case of fires.

1.5 Contribute to the maintenance of the access trail leading to the operation. Fill in pot holes that may develop during trail use. Use waste material (such as coal dust/wood chips), fill as soon as possible to reduce the potential of erosion.

1.6 Ensure while wood is burning it is monitored regularly and surrounding areas of charcoal operation are completely buffered.

1.7 Wood burning should be done at a significant distance from residential areas.

1.8 Ensure that endangered, threatened or protected tree species are not used for charcoal production unless approval from the relevant authority.

1.9 Use more efficient charcoal kilns for the briquette production like retort kilns or improved earth which significantly reduce emissions.

1.10 Use eco-friendly, natural binders such as starch, molasses, or plant-based adhesives in the briquette-making process. These binders replace



potentially harmful synthetic chemicals and reduce the environmental impact of the final product.

- 1.11 Engaging in tree planting after the closure of a project, especially a restoration or land rehabilitation project, is an excellent way to continue improving the environment, enhance biodiversity, and support the community's long-term sustainability.

## **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 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, hygienic practices, and the aesthetic quality of all operational facilities and surroundings  
Promote proper solid waste management practices at Project site.

3.2.1 Place covered garbage receptacles at strategic locations at production site

3.2.1 All solid waste collected shall be appropriately stored until such time for disposal in solid waste pits.

- 3.3 Maintain good housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices **at all times** at Project site.

- 3.4 Make sure to utilize as much of the material Charcoal as possible,

minimizing waste generation during production. Leftover briquette, if any, can often be repurposed as animal feed, compost, fertilizer or other by-products.

- 3.5 Charcoal residue and wood chips should be used for, but not limited to the following:
- a. As a mulch
  - b. Soil ameliorant.
  - c. Land filling.

#### **4.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT**

- 4.1 **Comply with the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.**
- 4.2 Maintain a non-extractable, vegetated buffer zone at least 20 m wide around any water sources/spring such as creek, stream, etc. located within the Project site.
- 4.3 Take all necessary precautions to prevent pollution and sedimentation of nearby surface water (creeks, streams, rivers etc.).
- 4.4 When using water in the briquette-making process, recycle and reuse water where possible.

#### **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 that appropriate measures are in place to minimise the impacts of airborne emissions from vehicles offloading and/or loading materials.
- 5.4 Avoid open burning of waste from production, as it can release toxic gases and particulates into the air. Instead, consider controlled combustion



- 5.4 Employ wet suppression methods such as watering, to control dust emissions.

## **6.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING & 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 Operation Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 6.3 Submit to the EPA an **Environmental Annual Report** 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 Operation Permit is granted. The Permit Holder, His Agents, and/or Sub-contractors shall be liable for any loss or damage which arises from the project as a result of the activities attributable to the project 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 Holders 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 Operation 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 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.
- 7.3 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.
- 7.4 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 7.2 and 7.3 of this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.5 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.
- 7.6 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.
- 7.7 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



**Environmental Permit - Ref. No.: 20230308-KHYCA**

(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)

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.

- 7.8 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.
- 7.9 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.
- 7.10 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 7.11 **This Environmental Permit is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 7.12 This Environmental Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein; **January, 2025 to December, 2029.**
- 7.13 This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **December 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.
- 7.14 This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed Application Form for Renewal of Environmental Authorisations to the Agency at least six months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **June 30, 2029.**
- 7.15 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



**Environmental Permit - Ref. No.: 20230308-KHYCA**

(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)

submitted to the Agency, without prejudice to any other rights of the Permit Holder in connection therewith.

- 7.16 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 Shamifah Rajah on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.



Date 2025.01.15

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	Quibbel Pollard
DESIGNATION	Secretary
SIGNATURE	Quibbel Pollard.
DATE	22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2025

