

PROJECT SUMMARY

Name of Developer: Jairam Persaud

Developer's Address: Lot 1, Affiance School Street, Essequibo Coast

Contact Details: +592-611-1482

Business Name: Jairam Persaud Lumber & Woodworking

Project Location: Sublot 'A' being portion of cultivation Lots 2 & 3 in Section 'C' being part of the Southern Tree Sevenths of the Northern Seventh-Tenths of Plantation Affiance

Sector of Operation: Forestry

Project Type: Lumberyard (With Processing)

Capital Investment: Approx. Guy Dollars 15-17 million

Annual Turnover: Projected Guy Dollars 12 million

Project Duration: Approx. 13 yrs.

Description of Project Location

The Lumberyard (With Processing) is located at Sublot 'A' being portion of cultivation Lots 2 & 3 in Section 'C' being part of the Southern Tree Sevenths of the Northern Seventh-Tenths of Plantation Affiance, and can be accessed from the Essequibo Public Road and proceeding to the second corner from the Affiance Nursery School, proceeding west. The access road is an asphalt road built to sustain considerable automobile traffic and can tolerate poor weather conditions. Please refer to Figure 1 below.



Figure 1: Map showing location of proposed facility

The topography of the area is generally flat and the soil type is clayey which may be prone to flooding during the rainy season. However, the area is built up and there is an earthen drain at the perimeter of the facility to drain the land. The drain is cleaned and maintained sometimes quarterly or it depends on need basis.

The surroundings of the operation appeared to be mixed in nature with industrial activities, i.e., Imaam Bacchus Rice Mill located approximately 168.48 m north, Taymouth Manor Primary School which is located approximately 322.35 m south from the proposed site, and Residents living east while the rice fields are located to the south. The first resident on the eastern side is approximately 136.67 m. Please refer to Figure 2 below.

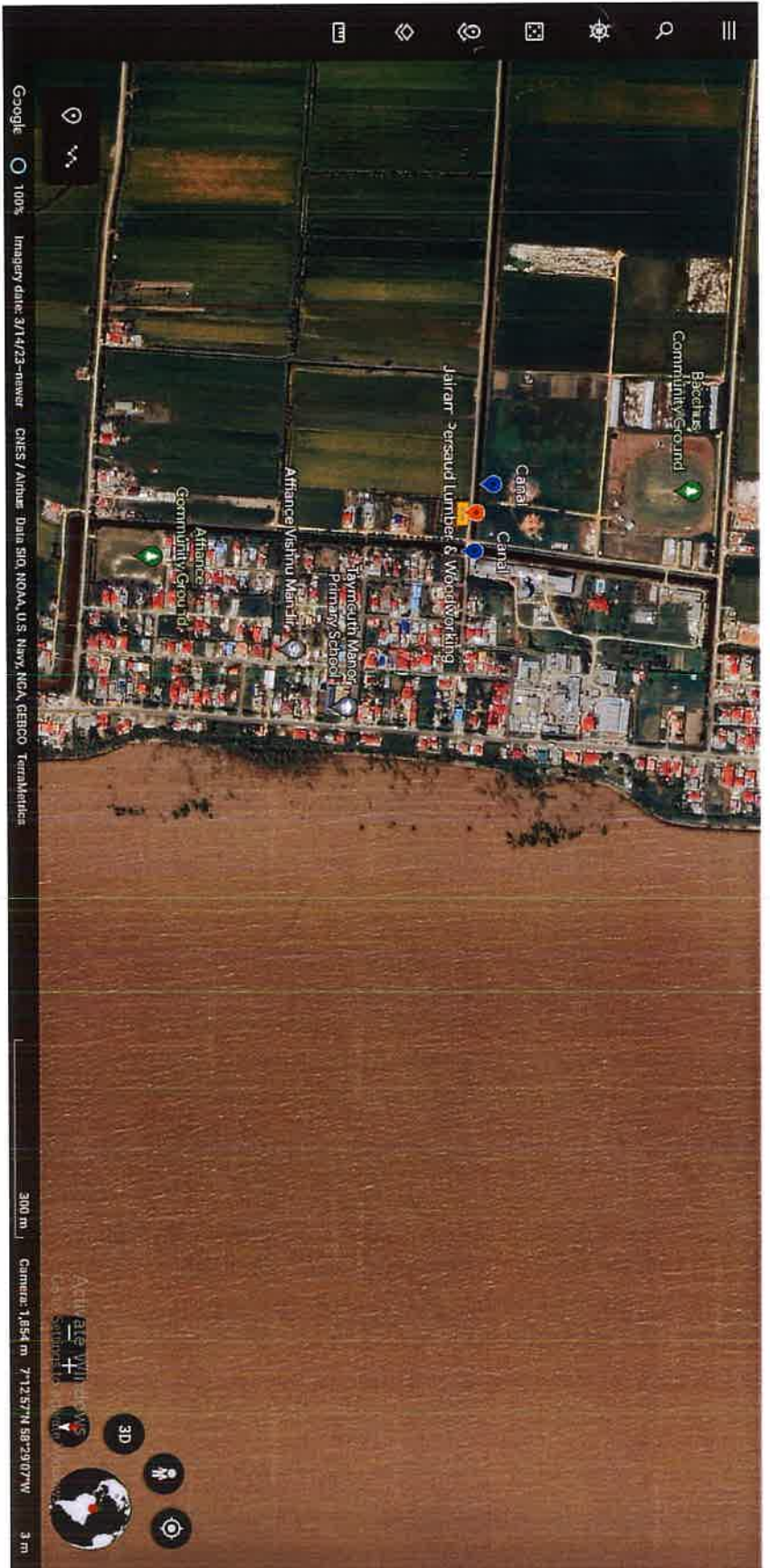


Figure 2: Map showing the general land uses of the proposed project location

Project Description

Construction phase

Approximately 3 people will be hired for the construction phase, and they will be responsible for providing their own PPE. A First Aid Kit will be onsite in case of a minor injury, but if there is a major injury, that person or persons will be transported to the nearest hospital for treatment.

The expected duration of this phase is about one month. The infrastructure to be constructed is a lumber shed, sanitary facility (flush toilet), an office building with 10 ft x 10 ft x 10 ft in dimensions. After the lumber shed is constructed, the equipment with the necessary electrical support will be installed.

During the construction phase, solid waste such as empty cement bags, pieces of wood, food boxes, beverage bottles and tins, etc. will be generated and is expected to be minimal. The waste will be collected in a garbage receptacle (a plastic drum) and emptied by Purans Brothers Waste Disposal Service once weekly. Noise emission is expected to be minimal since most of the tools that would be utilised will be hand-held electrical tools, and work will be carried out during the day from 8:00 a.m. to 17:00 p.m. Monday to Saturday. Vibration is not expected to be emitted since no heavy-duty machinery such as a loader, excavator or skidder will be used.

Operational Phase

The proposed lumber shed is 30 ft x 40 ft x 10 ft in dimensions and will store approximately 25,000 BM of lumber, both dress and rough, per month. Some of the species that will be in stock are Muniridan, Kabukalli, Shibidan, Dalli, etc. The demand for the species is dependent on market demand. The maximum capacity of this shed is 20,000 BM. The equipment on site will be one (1) planer, one (1) joiner, two (2) table saw, one (1) router and one (1) compressor. Also, there will be the process of lumber into door frames, spindles, hand rails, etc. The quantity of monthly production varies based on order. The lumber is supplied from various sawmills located on the Essequibo Coast and transported to the site by truck via road. The road is asphaltic to sustain considerable automobile traffic and can tolerate poor weather conditions.

When the truck load of lumber arrives at the site, it is discharged by the workers and placed onto the racks/shelves. Lumber is offloaded and loaded during working hours; 7:00 hrs. to 16:00 hrs., Monday to Saturday. Deliveries are done within and to nearby villages.

Six (6) persons are employed to work at the Lumberyard and working hours are from 7:00 hrs to 16:00 hrs, Monday to Saturday. The Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) includes gloves, long boots, visibility vests and masks will be provided to workers. A First Aid Kit will be kept on site to treat any minor cut(s) or bruise(s) and a vehicle is on standby to transport any injured person to the nearest Hospital.

The firefighting equipment will be in accordance with the Fire Safety Certificate in case there is a fire emergency. The equipment such as fire extinguishers and sand buckets will be mounted at strategic points of the operation and a "No Smoking" sign will be placed in a contiguous area.

Utilities such as electricity is provided by the 75 kVA diesel generator and water will be purchased for drinking and water from the canal will be used for the sanitation and in the sanitary facility.

Potential Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Environmental Factors	Potential Environmental Impacts	Mitigation Measures
<p style="text-align: center;">Air Pollution</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dust can become airborne, potentially causing respiratory issues for workers. 2. Soot, greenhouse gas, etc. emitted from the center during the transportation of lumber to the site and during deliveries to customers, may impact the air quality in the area. 3. Fire risk - the storage of large volumes of lumber can increase the risk of fire which may be caused by either electrical or the carelessness of workers who may smoke on site. This could lead to air pollution. 4. Offloading and loading of lumber may cause noise nuisance to workers and nearby residents and the free fall of lumber onto the ground when offloading at the site, may result in vibrations. 5. The visual appearance of the improper storage of lumber can alter the aesthetics of the site. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dust is generated from the open storage of wood waste such as shaving and sawdust and may affect workers' health. However, they are equipped with dust masks to protect themselves from the inhalation of dust particles since they are in direct contact with the lumber. The sawdust and shaving will be removed from the ground during operation and placed in polystyrene bags. Poultry farmers will collect on a daily basis. 2. The truck only works for a few hours every day, not the full 24. To further minimise pollution and downtime, the truck will be serviced and maintained once a month. 3. The operation is equipped with the necessary firefighting equipment such as fire extinguisher and sand bucket and access to the canal. 4. Lumber is offloaded and loaded during operating hours which are 8:00 hrs. to 16:00 hrs., Monday to Saturday so as to avoid disturbing the neighbours. Lumber is manually discharged from the center by the workers

		<p>since it does not have a hydraulic system to lift the tray. The workers carefully place each lumber onto the rack/shelves.</p> <p>5. The aesthetic quality of the site will be maintained by daily cleaning of the compound and lumber will be stacked in a neat and organised manner.</p>
Water Pollution	<p>One of the canals is located 22.7 m from the proposed site and will not be influenced in any way by the operation of the Lumberyard. There is a likelihood that if the wood and domestic waste are not managed effectively, they may enter the drainage system and obstruct the free flow of water.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Workers are always made aware of the importance of disposing garbage in the garbage receptacles and not to dump any waste in the drain. The drain is cleaned and maintained quarterly. Grey and sewage is discharged into the septic tank.
Soil Contamination	<p>There is no potential for soil contamination from any accidental release of hazardous materials or waste since these materials are not stored or used at the site. The truck is serviced at a mechanic workshop in the area and he collects the waste oil.</p>	
Ecosystem and Biodiversity	<p>There is no sensitive ecosystem and/or any rare, threatened or endangered species (both terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna) exist in the area. The area appeared to be a developed housing scheme with mixed land uses (refer to Figure 1 above).</p>	

Waste Generation & Management

During its operation, the project will use and produce non-hazardous waste. Environmental risks might arise from improper management of these materials/wastes. The following techniques for managing these wastes are highlighted:

Solid waste:

Staff and consumers produce domestic waste, such as food boxes, bottles, etc., although it is a negligible amount because most of the time, the staff carry their lunches from home. A garbage receptacle is placed at a strategic point so that it is easy to reach and the Puran Brothers Waste Disposal Services will empty the receptacle(s) once weekly.

The volume of wood waste is unknown but the shaving, sawdust, strips and chips will be collected by both poultry and cash crop farmers. The remainder of waste will be used for landfilling.

Greywater and sewage produced by employees and consumers are referred to as municipal waste and will be discharged into a septic tank. The septic tank will be accessible for cleaning.

Hazardous Waste

No waste oil, chemicals or preservatives or fuel stored or used on site.

Prepared by

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<p>Cumulative Impact</p>	<p>There is other activity i.e., rice mill in the area, which may adversely impact the environment, cumulatively.</p>	<p>Once this proposed operation and the rice mill are monitored to reduce the impacts individually as well as cumulatively.</p>
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