

Submitted To: Environmental Protection Agency

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Name of Project: Project Summary of Concession For Application of EPA Permit.

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1 8 NOV 2024
CENTRAL REGISTRY

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Date Prepared: 2024-11-07

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1 8 NOV 2024
FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

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18 Nov 24
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Contents of Project Summary

CONTENT	PAGE
Cover Page (Name of Developer, Contact etc)	1
Description of Site	4
Project Design	5
Project Size	6
Non-Technical explanation of Project	7
Duration of Project	7
Potential Effects of project on Environment	8
Mitigation Plans for Impact on Environment	9

In Guyana, concessions play a significant role in the management and utilization of forest resources. Krishna Persaud's logging concession is one example, where the project summary outlines the operational framework, environmental impact assessments, and compliance measures necessary for sustainable logging practices. This concession aims to balance economic development and environmental conservation by implementing responsible forestry practices that adhere to national regulations and international standards.

The project emphasizes community engagement and the importance of stakeholder collaboration to ensure that local populations benefit from the concession activities. By fostering partnerships with indigenous communities and promoting sustainable land use, the concession seeks to mitigate the negative impacts of logging while enhancing the livelihoods of those affected. Additionally, ongoing monitoring and evaluation processes are established to assess the ecological health of the forest and the effectiveness of management strategies, ensuring that the concession contributes positively to both the economy and the environment in Guyana.

Concession : Krishna Persaud Ess 14/22

Description of Site: The area is approximately 2,024 ha (5001 ac) Right Bank Kuiparu River; North- Eastern side Annai Extension Amerindian Village.

Commencing at a point on an unnamed tributary of the Kuiparu River having approximate UTM geographic coordinates of 02 88 619 E, 04 55 323 N; Thence by a cut line in South-easterly direction for an approximate distance of 6.0 km to a point on an unnamed territory of a large unnamed tributary of the Rupununi River having approximate UTM geographic coordinates of 02 92828 E, 04 51 025 N; Thence down the right bank of this unnamed tributary for an approximate distance of 2.3 km to its mouth on the left bank of the large unnamed tributary of the Rupununi River having approximate UTM geographic coordinates of 02 93 879 E, 04 49 052 N; Thence up the left bank of this large unnamed tributary of the Rupununi River for an approximate distance of 7.4 km to a point near the source having approximate UTM geographic coordinates of 02 87 361 E, 04 49 033 N; Thence along the Annai Extension Amerindian Village in a North-westerly direction for 1.8km to a point near the source of an unnamed tributary of the Kuiparu river having approximate UTM geographic coordinates of 02 88 376 E, 04 50 448 N; Thence down the right bank of this unnamed tributary for an approximate distance 3.3 km to a point having approximate UTM geographic coordinates of 02 85 221 E, 04 51 194 N; Thence by a cut line in north-easterly direction for an approximate distance of 2.8 km to a point on an unnamed tributary having approximate UTM geographic coordinates of 02 87 817 E, 04 52 223 N; Thence across and up the left bank of this unnamed tributary to a point near its source having approximate UTM geographic coordinates of 02 88 400 E, 04 54 760 N; Thence by a cut line in North-easterly direction for an approximate distance of 0.6km to a point on the first mention unnamed tributary of the Kuiparu river, this being the point of commencement.

Krishna Persaud's project represents a logging concession in Guyana, focusing on sustainable forest management and timber production. This project aims to balance economic development with environmental conservation, adhering to local regulations and promoting responsible harvesting practices. This initiative is part of a broader effort to manage Guyana's rich natural resources while ensuring its protection by maintaining the ecological integrity of forest areas, supporting wildlife habitats and preserving biodiversity.

The primary goal is to produce timber in a manner that does not compromise the forest ecosystem.

Logs will be harvested within the SFA concession ESS 14/22 granted to Mr Krishna Persaud, using all guidelines and rules and regulations of the Guyana Forestry Commission as stipulated. The activities associated with this concession are related to the felling of trees for the purpose of logging and the cutting of the lumber. The stages for this project include prospecting and tagging of proposed trees for felling. The process then proceeds on to the actual felling of the trees and cutting of the logs by use of chainsaws and log harvesters. After this stage it is the extraction of the logs for storage at the Depot and/or sale.

This process from prospecting to pulling does not harm the environment. It requires the use of a GPS device and chainsaw. The adding of a mill and other machinery is intended for the future but at the current time is not in operation at the site.

This operation does not require a large demand of water. However, for the workers (log harvesters), there is a camping setup basically made of tents and hammocks in a shaded area cleared within the surroundings of the concession. This camping facility is not permanent, meaning no concrete structure was erected. Water will be sourced from creek and stored from rainfall.

The waste produced is minimal and mostly from domestic activity. This waste water and other kitchen waste will be added to a small kitchen garden. The garden waste will be left to decompose forming nutrient rich compost for the garden and the waste water will be drained to the garden, hence, no wastage either. This helps to add back to the benefit of the soil. Besides that, any vegetation cut will be heaped, made into landfills and left for decomposition which is beneficial to the soil and the environment at large. The wood shavings and chips will be gathered and used as fuel for cooking.

This area also does not require electricity for operation.

The project is new and only one (1) month in operation thus far. The capital investment is six (6) million Guyana Dollars. There are a total of four (4) workers currently. As this operation grows only then will more workers be necessary.

This is an operation of basically the cutting of logs for timber production. Within the concession, the process entails prospecting for the availability of the various species of wood available; tagging the ones evaluated and permitted to fell. The trees are then cut by the saw men through a process of felling. They are then measured, documented and tagged. These are ready to be pulled for extraction from the site of felling to the Timber depot for storage or for delivery directly to a point of sale by tractor. This project also seeks to implement practices that minimize environmental impact, including careful planning of logging activities and reforestation efforts.

This project is estimated to be running for another twenty (20) plus years, however an operation such as this one, concession, can very well be a generational operation.

This operation does not have significant negative effects on the environment. Proper evaluation of potential impacts will be assessed and mitigated. The main goal is to harvest logs, produce timber in a manner that does not compromise the health of the forest ecosystem. The permission and certification for the harvesting of any tree in the area specified on map attached, is verified and approved by the Guyana Forestry Commission and has already been obtained by the developer, Mr Krishna Persaud. This means that the commission governing this natural resource of Guyana, being the natural forest and woods of the country, has assessed and permitted the removal of trees from this part of the state forest land without objection. Therefore, this clearly suggests the effect this operation has on the overall value and preservation of our natural forests and its entities are insignificant and will not pose as any threat or degradation of the forest, surrounding area or communities. On the contrary, this operation will add to the development of the economy as it will provide logs, timber and the availability of various species of wood to a growing and demanding market on both a local and international scale.

However, proposed plans to restore and maintain the forest are numerous. On a *personal level*, Mr Krishna Persaud has projected that the activity of replanting of seedlings and using cut vegetation to gather and store for decomposition, which returns richness and nutrients back to the soil, be in his business plan as a dedicated biannual activity, once permitted. This greatly impacts the nitrogen cycle and the regrowth of new trees and thus the overall benefits of the forest and the environment.

On a *national level*, these and other restoration and preservation plans and activities in accordance with and spearheaded by the Guyana Forestry Commission which is the body governing the preservation of Guyana's forests are in motion. The developer, Mr Krishna Persaud, is a staunch member of this body since being a stakeholder in Guyana and granted the opportunity to operate and harvest in state forest land. One other national activity through the Government of Guyana and the Forest Products Development and Marketing Council (FPDMC), is to manage the species of woods being harvested and bringing recognition to the lesser marketed species in order to maintain a balance and reduce overharvesting of the mainstream species such as Purpleheart, Greenheart, Washiba etc. Promoting the use of the lesser known wood species such as Darina, Limonabali, Kauta, Pakuri, Marni, Wadara, Cow wood etc, thereby reducing pressure on primary species, not only focuses on now but hundreds and thousands of years to come. This initiative focuses on sustainable forest management and biodiversity by allowing architects, designers, manufacturers and consumers with access to affordable decking, wall, ceiling, stairs and flooring options. Bringing recognition to Guyana's various species of woods not only on a local market but the international market as well, is

therefore a plan on an *international level* putting Guyana on a global platform and will greatly benefit the growing economy as the demand for infrastructure and development increases. Regular monitoring of logging operations to ensure adherence to environmental regulations and sustainable practices will be carried out systematically prioritizing a commitment to sustainable development, balancing economic needs with environmental stewardship.

Thank you.