

Submitted To: Environmental Protection Agency

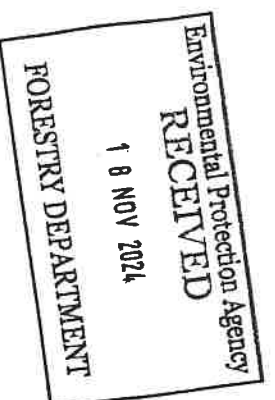
Submitted By : Krishna Persaud

Name of Project: Project Summary of Timber Depot For Application of EPA Permit.

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Date Prepared: 2024-11-07

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Concession : Krishna Persaud Ess 14/22

Description of Site: The area is approximately half- one acre in the area of Corkwood, Annai Extension Amerindian Village.

Commencing at a point on having approximate UTM geographic coordinates of a Northerly of 02 76 748 N, 04 58 035 S, North-easterly Direction of geographic coordinates 02 76 730N, 04 57 923 E. Continues on a South Westerly direction of geographic coordinates 02 76 813 N, 04 57 963 W and commences at the North Westerly direction of geographic coordinates of 02 76 748 N, 04 58 035 W.

This area is an open, cleared space surrounded by forests, vegetation and the Annai village road. The exact location is represented on an official map provided by the Guyana Forestry Commission.

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 the Timber Depot 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 Timber Depot contributes positively to both the economy and the environment in Guyana.

The activities associated with this Timber Depot are related to the Storage of felled trees for the purpose of logging and the cutting of the timber. Lumber will also be stored. The stages for this project include the extracted logs and cut lumber be laid and for storage, recorded and collected for sale.

This process from extraction to storage to sale does not harm the environment. It requires the use of a tractor to lay the logs and load the trucks. 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 demand of water.

The waste produced is minimal and mostly from initial clearing of vegetation for the storage space. Any vegetation cut will be heaped made into landfills and left for decomposition which is beneficial to the soil and the environment at large.

This area also does not require electricity for operation.

The project is new and only one month in operation thus far. The capital investment is six (6) million Guyana Dollars for entire process from felling to sale of logs. There is 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 storage of logs for timber production. The logs are measured, documented and tagged. The Timber depot is then used for the storage until timber is ready to be taken to lumberyard or for delivery directly to a point of sale.

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. The permission and certification for the storage of any tree that is cut in this concession to be stored at the area designated for the timber depot is verified and approved by the Guyana Forestry Commission, which has already been obtained by the developer. This means that the commission governing this natural resource of the natural forest and woods of Guyana, has assessed and permitted the storage of trees at this part of the state forest land without objection, thus 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 or surrounding areas 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, Kaura, Pakurti, Manni, 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.