



# Environmental Protection Agency

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## Operation Permit (Renewed)

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.:	20141208-PMSFS
Fee:	Medium (C1) i.e. US\$500 per year
Fee Paid:	US \$2,500: Five (5) years (March, 2021 – February, 2026)
Addressee:	Mr. Paul Sandy, Sandy's Funeral Home Lot 1, Chapel Street, Lodge, Georgetown.
Activity:	Operation of a Funeral Home

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Database Updated

*P. John 12/04/21*

Mr. Paul Sandy, trading and operating under the name “Sandy’s Funeral Home”, hereinafter referred to as the “Permit Holder”, is hereby authorised in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, to operate a funeral home at Lot 1, Chapel Street, Lodge, Georgetown, hereinafter referred to as the “Project”, in a manner indicated in the Application for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation submitted on October 02, 2020, 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, guidelines, best practices and standards relevant to this project.

This is a Renewal of the Operation Permit, Reference Number - 20141208-PMSFS, issued on April, 2015 and expired on March, 2020.

The Permit Holder, his Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractor(s) shall comply with the following Terms and Conditions for Operation:

### 1.0 OPERATION OF FUNERAL HOME

- 1.1 Notify the Agency in writing and obtain its approval for **ANY** proposed changes in the **Funeral Home** at least **fourteen (14) days** before making the change. The notification shall contain a description of the proposed change in operation. It is not necessary to make such a notification if an Application to vary this permit has been made and the Application contains a description of the proposed change. In this condition ‘**change in operation**’ means a change in the nature or functioning, or an

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extension, of the installation, which may have consequences for the environment including but not limited to the following:

- i. Changes in construction, structure, or layout of the facility and all associated buildings.
- ii. Installation of new and/or changes to equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility.
- iii. Any technology used or installed at the facility from which effluent may be discharged.
- iv. Any other circumstance or condition prescribed by Regulation 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.

1.2 Cleaning agents (sanitizing solutions/surfactants, disinfectants, chlorine bleaches, detergents) shall be used at a 1:10 dilution with water i.e. one (1) part cleaning agent to nine (9) parts water.

1.3 Staff shall be fully vaccinated with required dosage of Tetanus, Hepatitis B, etc. The vaccination record of staff shall be submitted to the Agency as part of the Annual Report required in **condition 7.6.**

1.4 The preparation table (for the deceased) shall be smooth, impervious and free from cracks and crevices.

1.5 Employees shall be equipped with Personal Protective Equipment relevant to the occupational tasks during operation. These Personal Protective Equipment may include but not limited to:

- Apron/ gown;
  - Water proof safety boots with ankle support;
  - Gloves with reinforced palms and fingers;
  - Eye protections; tightly fitted safety goggles.
- (Employees should at all times be well protected)**

1.6 Personal Protective Equipment shall be cleaned, sterilized and stored away from the viewing/display area.

1.7 Liquid hand-soap along with hot air dryers or paper towel dispensers shall be mounted on the walls of the preparation room and detergents and germicidal solutions shall be placed next to hand washing sinks for use by all personnel.

1.8 A register of the types and quantities of materials stored to support the project shall be established and maintained on site. The registered information shall be submitted to the Agency as a component of the Annual Environmental Report required in **condition 7.6.**

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- 1.9 Hazardous materials used at the facility shall be stored on an impervious base within a bunded area.
- 1.10 Hazardous material storage areas shall be secured and well ventilated.
- 1.11 Safety Data Sheets for all hazardous materials shall be readily available and easily accessible at all times at the Facility.
- 1.12 All chemical containers and parcels containing chemical shall be clearly labeled the chemical name, chemical manufacturer, major hazard(s), and date received and/or prepared.
- 1.13 Waste contaminated by dead bodies shall be buried with cadavers.
- 1.14 Funeral Service related activities shall take place between 06:00 h to 18:00 hours.
- 1.15 Guyana Fire Service Approval shall be maintained annually and shall be submitted as a component of the Annual Report required in **condition 7.6.**
- 1.16 The Funeral Home shall maintain fire prevention and control equipment in accordance with the Guyana Fire Service Approval. This may include a smoke detection and alarm system, fire extinguishers, fire hydrants or sprinkler systems as appropriate.

## **2.0 STORAGE OF CADAVERS**

- 2.1 A separate storage facility shall be maintained for cadavers.
- 2.2 Refrigeration Unit's temperature shall be maintained between 20C and 40C.
- 2.3 Dry Ice shall be used by the Funeral Home for the following instances:
  - Dry Ice (carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) frozen at - 78.5°C) may be suitable for short-term storage;
  - Dry Ice shall not be placed on top of cadavers, even when wrapped;
  - Build a low wall of dry ice (0.5 m high) around cadavers which shall be covered with plastic sheet, tarpaulin or tent.

## **3.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT**

Adhere to the *Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000* and the *Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000*.

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3.1 Comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) Guidelines for Noise emission into the Environment, not exceeding the limits at a distance of 15 metres (50 ft) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.

**Commercial Limits: 80 dB** (Day-time (06:00 h -18:00 h))  
**65 dB** (Night- time (18:00 h - 06:00 h))

3.2 All significant noise-producing equipment, such as generators, shall be equipped with silencers or mufflers and/or be enclosed in suitable acoustic enclosures where necessary, to reduce noise levels impacting the surrounding environment to achieve compliance with Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) requirement.

3.3 All generators and machines/equipment shall be serviced in accordance to manufacturer's specification to ensure efficiency and reduce the level of noise produced. The summarised maintenance report shall be submitted to the Agency as a component of the **Annual Report** referred to within in condition 7.6.

3.4 Stack heights and configurations shall be determined using the Good Engineering Practice Stack Height ( $H_{GEP}$ ) Formula to avoid excessive ground level concentrations of contaminants:

$$H_{GEP} = H + 1.5 L$$

$H_{GEP}$  = good engineering practice stack height, measured from the ground-level elevation at the base of the stack

H =height of nearby structure(s) measured from ground-level elevation at the base of the stack

L =lesser dimension, height (H) or projected width, of nearby structure(s)

The proposed stack height as determined by the  $H_{GEP}$  (inclusive of calculations and google map image showing the buildings under consideration) shall be submitted to the EPA for approval by **May 03, 2021**.

#### **4.0 WATER QUALITY**

Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations 2000**.

4.1 A waste treatment holding tank for collection of all effluent generated with the exception of human excrement shall be maintained.

4.2 Contaminated effluent shall be treated/decontaminated using formalin or a hypochlorite solution at a 1:10 ratio before final discharge. Effluent shall be tested prior to discharge into the environment according to parameters listed in **condition 4.3**.

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4.3 Discharges from the holding tank shall be in accordance with the *Guyana National Bureau of Standards Interim Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment* whose limits are listed below. Further, effluent from holding tank shall be tested prior to discharge into the environment according to parameters listed below:

Parameter	Daily Maximum Concentration	Units	Sample Type	Frequency of Analysis
pH	5.0 – 9.0	mg/L	Grab	Before each discharge
Temperature	40	°C	Grab	
BOD	<50	mg/L	Grab	
COD	<250	mg/L	Grab	
TSS	<50	mg/L	Grab	
N as $\text{HN}_3$	<10	Mg/L	Grab	
P	<2	Mg/L	Grab	
CN Tol.	<1	Mg/L	Grab	
Phenols	<0.5	Mg/L	Grab	
Coliform	<400	MPN per 100mL	Grab	

4.4 Grab samples of effluent from the holding tank shall be collected and processed by a certified laboratory prior to each discharge into the environment.

4.5 The methodology employed to conduct the grab sampling shall be submitted to the EPA in conjunction with the **Annual Report** referred to within in condition 7.6.

4.6 The results of each analysis shall be submitted to the EPA upon receipt. ***The frequency of effluent analysis shall be amended upon the EPA's determination that there is consistency with the results submitted.***

4.7 Any chemical spill that occurs during handling shall be immediately cleaned, as guided by the respective Safety Data Sheet and appropriately disposed to prevent discharges into any waterways.

4.8 Effluent generated from washing of floors and drains shall be directed to the holding tank.

4.9 The drainage system on site shall be kept flowing and free of debris and vegetation. Scheduled cleaning of the drainage network and the immediate environment shall be conducted.

## **5.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT**

- 5.1 In accordance with the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations 2013**, promote good sanitation and solid waste disposal practices on site; covered garbage receptacles must be placed at strategic locations at the facility. Waste must be collected and disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility.
- 5.2 Waste materials shall not be burnt on site. All solid waste shall be disposed at an approved Solid Waste Disposal Site, by an EPA Authorised Waste Disposal Company.
- 5.3 Maintain the septic tank installed with a sand and/or charcoal filter bed, or other appropriate design for further treatment. This must be in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) Code of Practice for the Design and Construction of Septic Tanks and Associated Secondary Treatment and Disposal Systems.

## **6.0 HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT**

Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000**.

- 6.1 All hazardous waste containers shall be labelled with the following:
- i. The words **“Hazardous Waste”**
  - ii. The type of waste
  - iii. Beginning accumulation date- Date when the container was first placed in Hazardous Waste Storage Area. Should the hazardous waste container be reused, the date hazardous waste was first placed in the container shall be recorded on the container.
- 6.2 All waste oil containers shall be labelled with the following:
- i. The words **“Waste Oil or “Used oil”**
  - ii. Beginning accumulation date
- 6.3 All hazardous waste shall be stored in a covered, banded area. This area shall include the following:
- i. Signage- **“Hazardous Waste Storage Area”**
  - ii. Low traffic
  - iii. No floor drains
  - iv. Secondary containment capable of containing 110% of the largest volume therein.
- 6.4 All hazardous waste shall be disposed of by an EPA authorised Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility. All hazardous waste treatment and disposal shall be documented on a **Waste Manifest Form** which must be submitted to the EPA as a component of the **Annual Report** in condition 7.6.

  


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**7.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING**

7.1 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency **within one (1) hour** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies (e.g. oil spills, hazardous materials/wastes, chemicals sudden onset disaster, natural, technological or human- induced factors that cause or threaten to cause severe environmental damage as well as harm to human health or livelihood).The Company shall respond to all environmental emergencies (e.g. fuel spills, fires, etc.) in accordance with the Environmental Response Plan (ERP) submitted to the EPA.

7.2 Make all employees, and third parties under your direction, aware of the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation and provide training on good environmental practices. Annual training schedule shall be submitted in the Annual Environmental Report required in **condition 7.6**.

7.3 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees.

7.4 Notify the Agency in writing of any change of name or ownership of the Permit Holder's facility within **thirty (30) days** after the change occurs.

7.5 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.

7.6 Submit Annual Environmental Reports to the EPA on the progress of the operation and compliance with the conditions under which this Permit was granted on or before **March 31** each year.

7.7 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with the Operation Permit (Renewed):

I. Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Authorisation for Operation becomes aware of the non-compliance(s), the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.

II. Within **seventy-two (72) hours**, submit to the Agency a written report containing a description of the non-compliance(s), its cause and the period of non-compliance including exact dates and time.

III. 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.

7.8 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.

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7.9 It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to ensure the permitted activity and premises are secured and that all practicable steps necessary to prevent fires, explosions, leaks or suspected leaks and spills at the permitted premises are taken.

**8.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/ LIABILITIES**

8.1 The EPA reserves the right to conduct regular inspections of the Permit Holder's operation as part of its monitoring and enforcement requirements under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000.

8.2 The EPA reserves the right to review and/or amend the conditions and fees attached to this Permit, which also includes the review and/or amendment of Permit Fees in consideration of any changes in fee structure as determined by the Agency for projects of this nature.

8.3 The Permit Holder, His Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractor(s) 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 s.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.

8.4 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.

8.5 The Permit Holder, his Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractor(s) shall be strictly jointly and severally liable as follows:

- a. For any activity that causes, or is likely to cause pollution of the environment, unless the person takes all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent or minimise any resulting adverse effect, in accordance with Section 19(1)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- b. For any activity which results in the discharge, release or entry into the environment of any contaminant in any amount, concentration or level in excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by this Permit, in accordance with Section 19(1)(b) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05 Laws of Guyana.
- c. The discharge or release of contaminants, such as hydraulic fluids, lubricants, fuel, or other industrial fluids relative to the Project, which are not stipulated herein, or by Regulations under the Environmental Protection Act, are strictly prohibited. Any such discharge or release shall be a violation of Section 19(1)(b) of the Environmental Protection Act.



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- d. For the compensation of any Party who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the project. (s.19(3)(e)) Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
  - e. For any material or serious environmental harm caused by pollution of the environment, whether intentionally or recklessly, in accordance with section 39 (1), (2), (3) and (4) of the Environmental Protection Act, 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
  - f. Any gross negligence or wilful misconduct resulting in serious risk, or adverse effects to the marine environment, biodiversity, protected species and natural habitat with respect to any release or discharge, spill, contaminant fluids, oil, or lubricants from any facilities permitted under this project.
  - g. For the payment of all costs and expenses related to the assessment of damage and investigations required, as result of any pollution incidents attributable to the activity for which this Permit has been issued.
- 8.6 The Agency (EPA) shall notify the Permit Holder immediately of any written claim or notice sent by any Complainant seeking loss or damage for negligence as a result of the Permit Holder's lack of due care and diligence.
- 8.7 Should the Permit Holder contravene or is likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency (EPA) may serve him an enforcement notice in accordance with s. 26 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 8.8 Where it appears to the Agency (EPA) that the Permit Holder is engaged in any activity that may pose serious threat to natural resources, serious pollution of the environment or any damage to public health, the EPA shall issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice, which may include an order to immediately cease the offending activity. [S. 27 Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 8.9 The Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein **March, 2021 to February, 2026**.
- 8.10 This Operation Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until **February 28, 2026, unless** otherwise suspended, cancelled, modified or varied in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 8.11 This Permit must be renewed by submitting an Application for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation to the Agency at least six (6) months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **August 31, 2025**.
- 8.12 Any late submission of renewal application (s) after the specified date as stated above, shall require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to renewal fee, a late penalty fee (accruing at the time such obligation was first owed for renewal) at a rate of **two thousand dollars**

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**(\$2000.00) per day for every day late**, until such renewal application is submitted to the Agency, without prejudice to any other rights of the Permit Holder in connection therewith.

8.13 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 Ms. Sharifah Razack on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Date 2021. 03. 17

I hereby accept the above terms and conditions upon which this Operational Permit (Renewed) is granted and agree to abide by the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, and any existing or forthcoming regulations, guidelines, best practices and standards made under this Act.

NAME	Paul Michael Sandy
DESIGNATION	Proprietor
SIGNATURE	Paul Michael Sandy
DATE	23-03-2021

