



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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Operation 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

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|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Reference No.: | 20201023-CTDSW |
| Fee: | Medium (C1), i.e. US\$ 500 per year |
| Fee Paid: | US \$2,500 for Five (5) years (March 2021 - February 2026) |
| Addressee: | Puran Brothers Disposal Inc. 7, Bella Street, Pouderoyen, West Bank Demerara |
| Activity: | Collection, Transportation and Disposal of Sewage and Septic Waste |

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Database Updated

E. John 23/03/21

Puran Brothers Disposal Inc., 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 collect, transport and dispose septic sludge in Regions 3, 4 and 5, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Application for Environmental Authorisation submitted on October 23, 2020, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, existing and/or forthcoming regulations, guidelines, best practices and standards relevant to this project.

Terms and Conditions for Operation to be adhered to by Permit Holder, His Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractor(s):

1.0 OPERATION OF COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE and SEPTIC WASTE

- 1.1 Notify the Agency in writing and obtain its approval for **ANY** proposed changes in the Activity **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 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 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:
 - Protective respiratory devices
 - Safety boots;
 - Gloves with reinforced palms and fingers;
 - Eye protections such as tightly fitted safety goggles.

(Employees should at all times be well protected)
- 1.3 Label should be affixed to all vacuum trucks used to transport septic sludge **by April 30, 2021**. The following information shall include:

**Warning
Septic Waste**
- 1.4 All septic sludge shall be stored in sealed metal containers prior to disposal at the Kingston Outfall; **GPS Coordinate: 21 N 0371182 UTM 0754614.**
- 1.5 Establish and maintain a register of the quantities of septic sludge collected, transported and discharged at GWI approved site. The registered information shall be submitted to the Agency as a component of the **Annual Report** referred to within **condition 5.6.**
- 1.6 A Cradle-to-Grave Waste Management System shall be established and maintained. Waste Manifests for **EACH** disposal of septic sludge shall be completed and submitted as a component of the **Annual Report** required in **condition 5.6.**
- 1.7 An incident spill report shall be documented for **EVERY** occurrence of spills during collection, transportation and disposal of septic sludge. A copy of the spill report shall be submitted to the Agency as component of the **Annual Report** required in **condition 5.6.**
- 1.8 Truck shall **ONLY** be parked on impervious surfaces at Lot 2B La Union, West Coast Demerara.

- 1.9 Visual/physical inspection of vacuum tankers, hose and all connecting parts shall be conducted daily for signs of leakage. Damaged hoses and connecting parts must be replaced **immediately**. Summary of daily inspection shall be documented and submitted to the Agency as a component of the **Annual Report** required in **condition 5.6**.
- 1.10 Trained operator or carrier shall at all times supervise, monitor and control the collection and transfer of septic sludge, to prevent overflow and spill during the entire period of collection and/or disposal.
- 1.11 Collection of septic sludge shall be conducted on an **impermeable** surface.
- 1.12 All vacuum trucks utilised for the collection and transport of septic waste shall satisfy the requirements of the **Road Traffic** Laws. Evidence of this requirement shall be submitted to the Agency as a component of the **Annual Report** required in **condition 5.6**.
- 1.13 Vacuum trucks dedicated for collection and transportation of septic sludge **shall not** be used for any other purpose.
- 1.14 Approval from Guyana Water Inc. (GWI) to utilize Kingston Outfall for the disposal of septic sludge shall be submitted **by August 31, 2021**.
- 1.15 Emergency spill cleanup kits shall be maintained on trucks for response to potential spills. Kits should contain absorbent materials, drain seals and other tools for clean-up.

2.0 WATER QUALITY

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

- 2.1 Spillage occurring during collection and disposal of septic sludge shall be cleaned-up **within one (1) hour** and effluent shall be disposed via the **Kingston Pipeline**.
- 2.2 Discharges of septic sludge effluent at Lot 2B, La Union, West Coast Demerara is **strictly prohibited**.
- 2.3 Truck maintenance activities shall be conducted on impermeable surface at least 15m from any waterways.

3.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

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

- 3.1 Comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment*, not exceeding the commercial 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 Trucks shall be placed on foundation designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations.
- 3.3 Trucks capable of causing emissions shall be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specification. Maintenance schedule of trucks shall be submitted the Agency as part of the **Annual Report** required in **condition 5.6**.
- 3.4 Idling of trucks shall be limited, as far as practical. Trucks shall be switched off when not in use.
- 3.5 The Best Available Technologies (BATs) shall be utilized to minimise the impacts of air borne emissions from vehicles offloading and/or loading materials.

5.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 5.1 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency **within one (1) hour** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies (e.g. oil spills, hazardous materials/wastes spills, 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).
- 5.2 The Project shall establish and submit the following documents to the EPA for review and approval **by April 30, 2021**:
- Emergency Spill Response Plan or Clean-up Contingency Plan;
 - Transportation Plan for the movement of Septic Sludge.
- 5.3 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 Report** required in condition **5.6**.
- 5.4 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.
- 5.5 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.

5.6 Submit **Annual 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.

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

- I. Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Authorization for Operation becomes aware of the non-compliance, 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, 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.

5.8 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.

5.9 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.

6.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/ LIABILITIES

6.1 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.

6.2 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.

6.3 The Permit Holder, His Servant 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.

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

6.5 The Permit Holder, his Servants and/or Agents 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.
- 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.

6.6 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.

- 6.7 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.
- 6.8 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.
- 6.9 The Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein **March 2021 to February, 2026.**
- 6.10 This Operation Permit 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.
- 6.11 This Permit must be renewed by submitting 'an Application for Environmental Authorisation to the Agency at least six (6) months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **August 31, 2025.**
- 6.12 Any late submission of the application required by Condition 8.11 beyond the date specified therein, shall require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to the application fee, a late penalty fee (accruing at the time such obligation was first owed for renewal) at a rate of **two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) per day for every business day late**, until such application is submitted to the Agency, without prejudice to any other rights of the Permit Holder in connection therewith.
- 6.13 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.

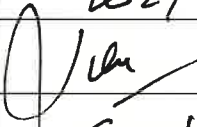
Signed by  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.
Ms. Sharifah Razack
Executive Director (Ag)

Date 2021. 03.16

Operation Permit Ref. No. 20201023-CTDSW

Issued under of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

I hereby accept the above terms and conditions upon which this Operational Permit 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.

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|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| NAME | KALESHWAR PURANI |
| DATE | 2021-03-19 |
| SIGNATURE |  |
| DESIGNATION | General Manager. |

