



Environmental Protection Agency

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Operation Permit (Renewed)

(Issued under the Environmental Protection Act, No.11 of 1996, the
Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the
Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000)

Reference No.	20131223-SPLYN
Fees:	Small (C1) - US\$500 Five (5) Years i.e. US\$100 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$500 Five (5) Years (January, 2021 to December, 2025)

Addressee(s): Mr. Suroojkant Persaud

S. Persaud and Sons Lumber Yard & Wash bay

173, Mongrippa Hill
Bartica

Essequibo River.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Database Updated

A-G-11-11-11 10-Aug-21

Activity: Operation of Lumber Yard (With Processing)

Mr. Surroojant Persaud, trading and operating under the name, S. Persaud and Sons Lumber Yard & Wash bay, hereinafter referred to as the "Permit Holder", is hereby authorised in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, to operate a lumber yard with processing, located at Lot 25, 7th Avenue Bartica, Essequibo River, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Renewal Application submitted on November 05, 2020, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, existing and/or forthcoming regulations made under the said Act and/or any other applicable laws, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

This Operation Permit (Renewed) is issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

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

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[Signature]

1.0 OPERATION

- 1.1 Notify the Agency in writing and obtain its approval for **ANY** proposed changes to the operation **at least fourteen (14) days** prior to 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, or any additional installation, which may have consequences for the environment. Changes to operation may include but not be limited to the following:
- a) Changes in construction, structure, or layout of the facility, plant or building;
 - b) Installation of new and/or changes to equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility or operation;
 - c) Any technology used or installed at the facility from which effluent may be discharged from.
 - d) Any other variance prescribed by Regulation 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.2 Ensure that adequate provisions are in place for ingress and egress to the site.
Storage of lumber is strictly prohibited on the road reserve.
- 1.3 Maintain suitable racks/shelves for storage of lumber of various sizes. Further, ensure that lumber are neatly packed on racks/shelves at all times. These facilities must be so organised that free and adequate passage is maintained.
Over-crowding of the lumber yard and/or over-stacking of lumber is prohibited.
- 1.4 Load and offload lumber between **06:00 h to 18:00 h** to avoid disturbance to residents.
- 1.5 Maintain a valid Fire Safety Certificate issued by the Guyana Fire Service. All firefighting equipment must be maintained and serviced regularly. The Fire Safety Certificate must be presented to officers of the Agency upon request during Compliance Inspections and up-to-date renewals must be included in Annual Reports.
- 1.6 Ensure that the transportation of lumber to and from your operation does not impede road traffic. Storage of lumber on the road ways and/ or on Government reserves is **strictly prohibited**. Lumber must be contained within the boundaries of the project site.

2.0 EMPLOYEES AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 2.1 All employees must be equipped with and trained in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) to fit their job specification such as: chaps for chainsaw operators, hi-visibility vests, respirator, hard hats, gloves, and appropriate footwear and ensure appropriate utilisation of these gears. A log for the distribution of Personal Protective Equipment to employees must be maintained. Evidence of distribution log must be presented to officer of the Agency upon request during compliance inspections.
- 2.2 A first aid equipped according to the Guyana Red Cross standards must be located on site at times. First aid kit should include a snake bite kit. Additionally, communication and transportation systems must be in place to respond to emergencies.
- 2.3 All employees must be trained in the use of fire extinguishers and firefighting protocols.
- 2.4 Make all employees/third party contractors aware of the Conditions of this Operation Permit (Renewed) and provide training on good environmental management practices. Prepare and maintain a training file for employees which should be available upon Officers' request during Compliance Inspections.

3.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Maintain good housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices, and the aesthetic quality of your surroundings at all times.
- 3.2 Ensure effective management of recoverable materials and all waste generated by the project is in accordance with the EP Act, Cap 20:05 part V s. 19(1)(2)(3)(4): s. 20(1)(2).
- 3.3 Promote proper solid waste management practices at Project site. Covered garbage receptacles must be placed at strategic locations, both in and outside of lumberyard. All solid waste collected in these receptacles must be disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility. Reuse, recycle and/ or compost waste materials as far as practical.
- 3.4 Dispose of unused wood waste/impurities and any other solid waste in accordance with measures outlined by the Agency in a timely manner and do not allow them to accumulate on site for excessive periods of time to the adverse effect of the environment or human health.
 - 3.4.1 In the event that wood waste accumulates on site, heaps shall be kept at a height not exceeding two (2) metres, unless otherwise directed by the Agency.
 - 3.4.2 The Permit Holder shall ensure sufficient mitigation measures are employed to prevent the dispersion of wood waste into the

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environment, failing which he shall be liable under Section 19(1)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

3.4.3 Options for reuse of sawdust/wood shavings and its impurities include:

- Poultry bedding;
- Landfill material (where practical); and
- Compost

3.5 Maintain a septic tank system on site at all times. The septic tank should not be located within 1.5 m of a building or property boundary and should be accessible for cleaning and de-sludging. Any modification to the Septic tanks 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*.

3.6 Maintain a good drainage system at the facility and ensure the land is appropriately built up to avoid floods and contamination of the receiving waters.

4.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

4.1 Comply with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000** and the **Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000**.

4.2 Comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) Guidelines for noise emission into the environment, not exceeding the limits below at a distance of 15m (50 ft) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.

Residential Limits 75dB (Day-time (06:00 h - 18:00 h))

4.3 Ensure that loading and offloading activities are done in such a manner to prevent or avoid adverse noise nuisance (sharp sounds) to the surrounding environment.

5.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING & REPORTING

5.1 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.

5.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Operation Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.

5.3 Submit to the EPA **Environmental Annual Report** on the status of the project, progress of the implementation of the monitoring activities and compliance with the conditions contained herein by **March 31** every year.

5.4 Conform to all terms and conditions under which this Operation Permit (Renewed) is granted. The Permit Holder, His Agents, and/or Sub-contractors shall be liable for any loss or damage which arises from the project as a result of the activities attributable to the project or breach of any term or condition of this Permit.

5.5 Inform the Agency prior to or **within thirty (30) days** of any change of name or ownership of the operation.

5.6 Notify the Agency **within twenty-one (21) days** in event of death, bankruptcy, liquidation or receivership of the Permit Holders or if the Company becomes a party to an amalgamation.

5.7 Notify the EPA **within one (1) hour** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies such as a sudden onset disaster, accident, natural, technological or human induced factors that cause or threaten to cause severe environmental damage as well as harm to human health or livelihood.

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

5.8.1 Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Permit Holder becomes aware of the non-compliance, the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.

5.8.2 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.

5.8.3 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.

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

6.4 The Permit Holder 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 Section 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.

6.5 This Operation Permit is not the final consent; all relevant permissions should be obtained and maintained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.

6.6 The Permit Holder, his Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractors 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 all reasonable and practicable measures were taken 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 sludge, wastewater, hydraulic fluids, lubricants, fuel, chemicals, hazardous materials or other wastes relative to the Project, which are not regulated herein, or permitted to be discharged herein, are strictly prohibited. Any such discharge or release shall be deemed a violation of Section 19(1)(a) and/or 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 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 willful 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 or likely to be attributable to the activity for which this Permit has been issued.
- 6.7 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 lack of due care and diligence.
- 6.8 Where it appears to the Agency that the Permit Holder is engaged in any activity that may pose serious threat to natural resources or serious pollution of the environment or any damage to public health, the EPA may issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice Order to immediately cease the offending activity in accordance with Section 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 6.9 Should the Permit Holder contravene or is likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency (EPA) may serve on him an Enforcement Notice in accordance with Section 26 of the EP Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 6.10 This Operation Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein **January, 2021 to December 31, 2025**. This Operation Permit shall remain valid until **December 31, 2025**, unless otherwise modified, cancelled, suspended or revoked in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000.
- 6.11 This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed *Application Form for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation* to the Agency at least six months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **June 30, 2025**.
- 6.12 Any late submission of renewal application 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 (GY\$2000.00) per day for every business day late**, until such renewal 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 shall render the Permit

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Holder liable to prosecution and to penalties prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000, including civil penalties and injunctive relief.

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

Executive Director

Date 2021. 01. 26

I hereby accept the above Terms and Conditions upon which this Operation Permit is granted and agree to abide by the Environmental Protection Act, Cap.20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000, and any forthcoming regulations and standards made under this Act.

NAME	SUREOJKANT PERSAUD
DESIGNATION	
SIGNATURE	
DATE	04-08-2021

