



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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Environmental 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.:	20080421- MEWOO
Fee:	Medium (C2) - US\$800 per year
Fee Paid:	US\$800 for One (1) year (August 2022 – July 2023)
Addressee:	Edmond Vieira Managing Director E.C. Vieira Investments Limited Houston Estate East Bank Demerara <div data-bbox="1019 667 1445 835"><p>ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY Database Updated <i>A. Griffith 06-Aug-22</i></p></div>
Activity:	Operation of a Workshop (Welding & Fabrication, Spray Painting and Glass Blasting) with Fuel Storage (DIESEL ONLY)

E.C. Vieira Investments Limited, 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 Workshop (Welding & Fabrication, Spray Painting and Sand Blasting) with Fuel Storage (DIESEL ONLY) at Area K, Houston, East Bank Demerara, hereinafter referred to as the “Project”, in a manner indicated in the Application for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation submitted on March 31, 2022, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, and in any existing or forthcoming regulations made under the said Act and/or any applicable laws, guidelines, best practices and standards relevant to this project.

This is a Renewal of Operation Permit (Renewed), Reference No. 20080421-MEWOO issued on February 11, 2020 and expired February 28, 2021.

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

1.0 GENERAL OPERATION

- 1.1 Make an application to the Agency to vary this Permit in instances where it becomes necessary to:
 - i. change the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and

- all associated buildings;
 - ii. change equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility;
 - iii. change the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents; or
 - iv. effect any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.2 A register of the quantities of fuel and chemicals stored onsite shall be established and maintained. Registered information shall be maintained on site and made available to the EPA upon request.
- 1.3 Emergency spill clean-up kits shall be maintained at the Project site for response to spills. Kits shall contain absorbent materials, drain seals and other appropriate tools for clean-up, and shall be readily available and clearly identified at the Project.
- 1.4 Fire prevention and control equipment shall be maintained in accordance with this **Guyana Fire Service Approval**.
- 1.5 Adhere to the requirements of **the Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap. 99:01, Laws of Guyana**.
- 2.0 OPERATION OF A WORKSHOP**
- 2.1 Welding, fabrication and other maintenance activities shall at all times be conducted within the confines of the workshop.
- 2.2 Operation and maintenance of machines, equipment and tools used at the workshop shall be conducted in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. Summarised maintenance records shall be maintained and submitted to the EPA upon request.
- 2.3 The Best Available Technology (BAT) shall be implemented to remove vapours/ fumes from the workshop during welding and fabrication works.
- 2.4 Welding gas cylinders shall be stored and managed according to the supplier's recommendations.
- 2.5 Engine oil, grease and other chemicals used at the workshop shall be stored within secondary containment (bund area) to minimise the spread/ release of spillage from the storage area.
- 2.6 All chemicals used at the workshop shall be stored in accordance with the Safety Data Sheets (SDS). SDS shall be readily available and easily accessible.
- 2.7 Flammable materials shall be stored away from ignition sources. **'No Smoking'** signs shall be posted where such materials are handled and stored.

3.0 SPRAY PAINTING

- 3.1 The Best Available Technology (BAT) shall be implemented to remove vapours during spray painting operations so as to minimize the release of fugitive emissions to the environment.
- 3.2 **'NO SMOKING'** signs shall be mounted at the spray-painting area to reduce the risk of fire.
- 3.3 Spray-painting activities shall **NOT** be conducted outdoors. All spray-painting activities shall be conducted within the workshop.
- 3.4 Spray painting chemicals including paints and flammable solvents shall be stored within secondary containment (bund area) to minimise the spread/ release of spillage from the storage area.
- 3.5 Paint cans shall be tightly sealed and kept off the floor on pallets to reduce the occurrence of spills.
- 3.6 Compressed cylinders shall be stored and managed in accordance with supplier's recommendations. Air compressors should also be operated in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- 3.7 Safety Data Sheets for paints, solvents and other chemicals shall be readily available and easily accessible at all times at the Project site.

4.0 OPERATION OF GLASS BLASTING FACILITY

- 4.1 The Best Available Technology (BAT) shall be implemented to contain particles during glass blasting operations so as to minimize the release of fugitive emissions to the environment.
- 4.2 Glass blasting activities shall **NOT** be conducted outdoors. All glass- blasting shall be conducted within the workshop.
- 4.3 Records of the total amount of crushed glass blasting media used and any control methods employed, shall be maintained. These records shall be made available to the EPA upon request.

5.0 AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000.**
- 5.2 Ambient air quality monitoring shall be conducted at the boundary of the property during normal operations to assess the levels of the following air pollutants, in accordance with the WHO Air Quality Guidelines 2005:

Air Pollutant	Averaging Time	Maximum Permissible Level	Frequency
PM _{2.5}	24h	50µg	Annually
PM ₁₀	24h	50µg	Annually

The Permit Holder shall prepare and submit to the EPA for approval by **December 31, 2022**, a sampling and monitoring plan for air quality monitoring. The plan shall consider the parameters above and location of assessments. Monitoring shall be conducted during normal operations by trained personnel utilizing calibrated equipment.

5.3 In the event of inefficiencies which may result in visible or abnormal emissions to air, the operator shall:

- 5.3.1 Investigate and undertake remedial action immediately;
- 5.3.2 Adjust the process or activity to minimise those emissions; and
- 5.3.3 Record the events and actions taken. This shall be submitted in the annual report.

6.0 NOISE MANAGEMENT

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

6.2 Noise emissions shall be monitored at the Project's boundary to determine compliance with **Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) Guidelines for Noise Emissions** into the Environment, not exceeding the **industrial limits** listed below:

Industrial Limits: 100 dB (Day-time (06:00 h -18:00 h))
80 dB (Night- time (18:00 h - 06:00 h))

A noise quality monitoring plan shall be submitted to the EPA for approval by **December 31, 2022**. Noise monitoring shall be conducted in accordance to the approved plan and the results shall be submitted to the Agency upon request.

- 6.3 All machines/equipment shall be serviced in accordance to the manufacturer's specification to ensure efficiency and reduce the level of noise produced. A summarised maintenance report shall be maintained on-site and made available to the EPA upon request.
- 6.4 All equipment and machinery shall be placed upon foundations properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations.
- 6.5 All significant noise-producing equipment, such as generators, shall be equipped with appropriate silencers or mufflers and/or are 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.

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7.0 FUEL HANDLING AND STORAGE

- 7.1 Adopt and comply with the National SOP "Guidance for the Design, Construction, Modification, and Maintenance of Petrol Filling Stations" and any forthcoming code of practice/guidelines pertaining to the operation of fuel storage.
- 7.2 Fuel shall at all times be stored above-ground and away from ignition sources. **'No Smoking'** signs shall be posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 7.3 Fuel storage tanks shall be visually inspected to verify their integrity. Inspection reports shall be maintained on site and made available to the EPA upon request.
- 7.4 Protection measures for fuel storage tanks such as painting and coating shall be maintained to minimise corrosion of fuel tanks.
- 7.5 Maintenance and/ or repair of fittings, pipes and hoses shall be in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. A summarised inspection report shall be kept and submitted to the EPA upon request.
- 7.6 Overfill protection shall be installed and maintained on all fuel tanks. This may include an automatic shut off device or an audible or visible overfill alarm.

8.0 WATER QUALITY

- 8.1 Adhere to the provisions of **the Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.**
- 8.2 Discharge of wastewater from the Project into the environment is **strictly prohibited.**
- 8.3 Chemical spills occurring during handling and loading of chemicals **shall be** immediately cleaned as guided by the respective Safety Data Sheet and disposed at an EPA authorised disposal facility.

9.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 9.1 In accordance with the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013**, promote good sanitation and solid waste disposal practices on site. Covered garbage receptacles shall be placed upon impervious base at strategic locations, both within and outside facility.
- 9.2 Burning solid waste is **strictly prohibited.** All solid waste shall be disposed by an EPA Authorised Waste Disposal Company.
- 9.3 Good house-keeping, sanitary, and hygienic practices shall be maintained at all times. The facility's drains and surroundings shall be kept free of vegetation and litter.
- 9.4 Waste collection areas shall be kept clean. Dry methods shall be used when cleaning

around waste handling and disposal areas (e.g. sweeping, use of absorbents).

10.0 HAZARDOUS WASTE (Waste Oil, Oily Rags, Etc.) MANAGEMENT

10.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulation 2000.**

10.2 Hazardous waste shall be stored in containers appropriate for the waste stream.
That is:

a) Sealed Metal Containers

- i. Solvents and Petroleum- based products;
- ii. Waste ink, Press-wash, Oil and Oily Absorbents

10.3 Hazardous waste containers shall be labelled with the following:

- i. The words "**Hazardous Waste**"
- ii. The type of waste
- iii. Beginning accumulation date i.e., date when the container was first placed in the 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.

10.4 Waste oil containers shall be labelled with the following:

- i. The words "**Waste Oil** or "**Used oil**"
- ii. Beginning accumulation date

10.5 Hazardous waste shall be stored in a covered, bunded area. This area shall include the following:

- i. Signage- "Hazardous Waste Storage Area"
- ii. Low traffic
- iii. No floor drains
- iv. Bunded area shall provide 110% containment of the largest volume stored therein.

10.6 Hazardous waste shall be treated and/ or disposed 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.**

11.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

11.1 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency within one (1) hour of the discovery of the occurrence of environmental emergencies (e.g., oil spills, hazardous materials/wastes spill, 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). Notification as prescribed by Section 19(3)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act, shall be submitted to the EPA within twenty-four (24) hours of the discovery of the incident occurring.

- 11.2 The Company shall respond to all environmental emergencies (e.g. chemical spills, fires, etc.) in accordance with the **Emergency Response Plan (ERP)** submitted to the EPA.
- 11.3 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 11.4 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.
- 11.5 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.
- 11.6 Maintain and submit to the Agency records of the type, composition and quantity of contaminant released (i.e. any solid, liquid, gas, odour, sound, vibration, radiation, heat or combination of any of them).
- 11.7 Submit an **Annual Report** to the EPA on your compliance with this Permit on or before **March 31, each year**.
- 11.8 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with the Environmental Permit (Renewed):
- i. Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit (Modified) becomes aware of the non-compliance outlining the anticipated manner in which human health or the environment may be impacted.
 - ii. Within **seventy-two (72) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit (Modified) becomes aware of the non-compliance, submit to the Agency a written report containing a description of the non-compliance, its cause, the period of non-compliance including exact dates and time and the anticipated time it is expected to continue if the non-compliance(s) has not been corrected.
- 11.9 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.
- 11.10 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.

12.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 12.1 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any material environmental harm caused by polluting the environment, pursuant to s. 39 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap.

20:05, Laws of Guyana.

- 12.2 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any serious environmental harm caused by polluting the environment, pursuant to s. 39 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 12.3 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any activity that causes or is likely to cause pollution of the environment unless all reasonable and practicable measures are taken to prevent or minimize any resulting adverse effect, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 12.4 The Permit Holder shall be liable for discharging, causing or permitting the 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 Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 12.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 12.3 and 12.4 of this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 12.6 The Permit Holder shall not be indemnified by the Agency for any activity that causes or is likely to cause pollution to the environment, resulting from adverse effects through the discharge, any contaminant in any amount, concentration, ultra hazardous substances, chemicals or otherwise, and shall be rendered liable to prosecution and to penalties prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act and Regulations.
- 12.7 The Permit Holder shall be liable of any gross negligence or willful misconduct caused by the Permit Holder, his Servants and/or Agents, to the environment, biodiversity, protected species and natural habitat with respect to any release, discharge, or spill, of contaminant fluids, oil or lubricants.
- 12.8 Should the Permit Holder contravene or be 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 Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 12.9 Where it appears to the Agency that the Permit Holder is engaged in any activity that may pose a serious threat to natural resources or the environment, or a risk of serious pollution of the environment or any damage to public health, the EPA may issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice, which may order him to immediately cease the offending activity, in accordance with Section 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 12.10 The EPA reserves the right to conduct regular inspections of the Permit Holder's construction activities as part of its monitoring and enforcement requirements under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, and the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

- 12.11 The Permit Holder, His Servants and/or Agents 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.
- 12.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 12.13 **This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 12.14 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is effective for the period stipulated herein; **August, 2022 to July, 2023.**
- 12.15 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until **July 31, 2023** unless otherwise suspended, cancelled, modified or varied, 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 (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 12.16 This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed *Application Form for Renewal of Environmental Authorization* to the Agency at least six months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **January 31, 2023.**
- 12.17 Any late submission of renewal application after the specified date as stated above, the Agency may require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to the 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.
- 12.18 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit (Modified) 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.

Environmental Permit (Renewed) - Ref No. 20080421- MEW00
Issued under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20: 05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection Authorisations Regulations, 2000.

Signed by  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director

Date 1.9.2022

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

NAME:	Benton Dunder
DESIGNATION:	Office assistant
SIGNATURE:	Benton Dunder for Edmond
DATE:	2022-09-01

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