



**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.:	20180316-SDSLU
Fee:	Medium (C2) i.e., US\$800 per year
Fee Paid:	US\$1,600 for two (2) years (November 2023 – October 2025)
Addressee:	Mr. Eric Tucker, Sandip Waste Management Solutions Inc. 75 Sixth Street, Albertain Georgetown Guyana
Activity:	Operation of Septic Sludge Management Facility

Sandip Waste Management Solutions Inc., also known as Sandip Disposal Services, hereinafter referred to as the “Permit Holder”, is hereby authorized 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 Septic Sludge Management System at Bonn Success, Lethem, Region 9, hereinafter referred to as the “Project”, in a manner indicated in the Application for Renewal of an Environmental Authorisation submitted on November 14, 2023, 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.

This is a Renewal of Environmental Permit, Reference No. 20180316-SDSLU issued on November 24, 2020, and expired on October 31, 2022.

The Permit Holder, His Servants, Agents, and/or Sub- Contractors shall comply with the following Terms and Conditions for Operation:

1.0 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 All employees and third parties under the Project's direction shall be made aware of the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation.

1.3 The Permit Holder shall provide training on good environmental practices. An annual training schedule shall be maintained on-site and made available for inspection by the EPA upon request.

1.4 Label shall be affixed to all Waste Collection Vehicles used to transport septic waste. The label shall include the following information:

**Warning
Septic Waste**

1.5 Waste Collection Vehicles shall be parked on an impervious base and **not** on the Government Reserve.

1.6 Waste Collection Vehicle hoses and fittings shall be inspected daily for signs of wear or breakage. Damaged hoses and fittings must be replaced **immediately**. Inspection reports shall be maintained and made available for inspection by the EPA upon request.

1.7 Waste Collection Vehicles dedicated to the collection and transportation of septic waste **shall not** be used for any other purpose.

1.8 A trained operator or carrier shall at all times supervise, monitor, and control the collection and transfer of septic waste, to prevent overfill and spill during the entire period of collection and/or transfer.

1.9 Collection of septic waste shall be conducted within an area with an **impermeable** base where applicable.

1.10 All Waste Collection Vehicles utilized for the collection and transport of septic waste shall satisfy the requirements of the **Road Traffic** Laws.

1.11 An incident spill report shall document **EVERY** occurrence of spills during the collection and/or transportation of sludge. A copy of the spill report shall be submitted to the Agency **within twenty-four (24) hours of the incident**.

1.12 Emergency spill cleanup kits shall be maintained on the vehicle for response to potential spills. Kits should contain absorbent materials, drain seals, and other appropriate tools for clean-up.

- 1.13 Septic waste shall be transported in secure, enclosed vehicles **ONLY**.
- 1.14 The ingress to and egress from the site shall be cleared and freed of obstructions.
- 1.15 The land shall be utilized in accordance with the plan submitted to the Agency. All specifications of location, pathways, reserve, and boundary lines shall be adhered to unless otherwise authorized.
- 1.16 Only semi-solid sludge removed from septic tanks shall be treated by the Sludge Treatment System.
- 1.17 Sludge drying beds shall be rectangular in shape with dimensions of 15–60 ft (4.5–18 m) wide by 50–150 ft (15–47 m) long with vertical side walls.
- 1.18 The bottom of the drying bed shall be impervious, consisting of a minimum of one-foot layer of clayey subsoil having a permeability of less than one-millionth (10^{-6}) cm/sec. In locations where the ground water table is within one foot of the bottom, a watertight concrete pad shall be installed.
- 1.19 A splash plate or other diffusion device shall be installed where the sludge enters the bed.
- 1.20 A routine inspection schedule for inspections of the beds for odour, insect problems, or other potential environmental issues, shall be established and maintained. Inspection reports shall be submitted in the **Annual Report** required by Condition 5.6.
- 1.21 Adhere to the requirements of the **Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap. 99:01, Laws of Guyana**.

2.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 2.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000**.
- 2.2 Discharge to surface water is strictly prohibited.
- 2.3 Spillage occurring during collection of waste shall be **immediately** clean-up and treated with chlorine prior to disposal.
- 2.4 The Best Available Technologies (BATs) shall be implemented to prevent spillage during the transport, handling and transfer to the sludge drying/disposal beds onsite.

3.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 In accordance with the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013**. Promote good sanitation and solid waste disposal practices on site; covered garbage receptacles placed at strategic locations at the facility. Waste must be collected and disposed of at a waste disposal facility approved by the EPA
- 3.2 The best practicable means of handling, storing and disposing of all waste materials shall be utilized at all times.
- 3.3 Good housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices, and the aesthetic quality of the project surroundings shall be maintained at all times.
- 3.4 Designated areas for stockpiling of cover materials shall be identified and clearly mark them with signage. Do not allow cover material heaps to exceed 2 meters in height.

4.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality and Noise Management) Regulations, 2000**.
- 4.2 The existing vegetative buffer on site shall be maintained to aid in the control of fugitive dust, buffer noise and improve the aesthetic quality of the surroundings.
- 4.3 Stockpiles of cover materials shall be stored downwind to avoid being transported by wind to sensitive areas (residences, schools etc.).
- 4.4 The level of dust pollution shall be minimised during the construction phase of the beds, especially in dry conditions by covering piles or applying wet suppression methods or other appropriate measures.
- 4.5 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 15 m (50 ft) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.

Industrial Limits 100 dB during the day-time (06:00h – 18:00 h)
80 dB during the night-time (18:00 h – 06:00 h)

- 4.6 All sound-making devices such as generators, machines, etc., shall be equipped with silencers or mufflers to reduce noise emission levels and are placed on foundations designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations.
- 4.7 The Best Available Technologies (BATs) shall be implemented by **February 17, 2024**, to avoid or minimize the accumulation of dusty materials that have the

potential to become airborne and odours which may be a nuisance to surrounding residents.

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 Make all employees, and third parties under your direction, aware of the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation and provide training on good environmental practices. The annual training schedule shall be submitted to the EPA as a component **Annual Report** required by **Condition 5.6**.
- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 Notify the Agency **within twenty-one (21) days** in the event of death, bankruptcy, liquidation, or receivership of the Permit Holder or if the Company becomes a party to an amalgamation.
- 5.5 Maintain and submit to the Agency records of the type, composition, and quantity of contaminant released (i.e. any solid, liquid, gas, odor, sound, vibration, radiation, heat, or combination of any of them).
- 5.6 Submit **Annual Reports** to the EPA on your compliance with this Environmental Permit on or before **March 31, of each year**.
- 5.7 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with the Environmental Permit as follows:
 - I. Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Permit Holder becomes aware of the non-compliance(s), and 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.

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 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.

6.2 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.

6.3 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.

6.4 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 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.

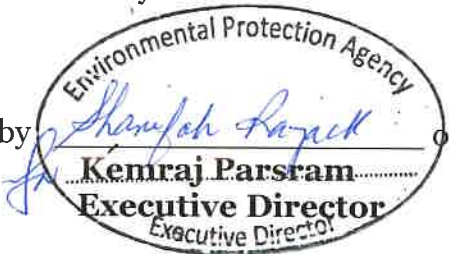
6.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 11.3 and 11.4 of this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

6.6 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, of 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.

6.7 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any gross negligence or wilful 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.


- 6.8 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.
- 6.9 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.
- 6.10 The EPA reserves the right to conduct regular inspections of the Permit Holder's activities as part of its monitoring and enforcement requirements under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 6.11 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 to conduct 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 offense 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.
- 6.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel, or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 6.13 **This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 6.14 The Environmental Permit (Renewed) is effective for the period stipulated herein from **November 2023 to October 2025.**
- 6.15 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until **October 31, 2025**, unless otherwise suspended, canceled, 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.
- 6.16 This Permit shall be renewed by submitting a completed *Application Form for Environmental Authorisation* (Environmental Permit) to the Agency at least six months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **April 30, 2025.**

- 6.17 Any late submission of renewal application(s) after the specified date as stated above, 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 (\$2,000.00) 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.
- 6.18 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
Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director

Date 2023.11.24

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, 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	Eric Tucker
DATE	04/12/23
SIGNATURE	
DESIGNATION	CEO

