



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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Environmental 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.

Reference No.:	20230220- PHISB
Fee:	Medium (C1) i.e., US\$ 500 per year
Fee Paid:	US\$2500 for five (5) years (September 2023- August 2028)
Addressee:	Dr. Indra Bahadur Singh Managing Director Poonam Hardware & Steel Products/ Poonam Engineering Services (Guyana) Inc. Bamia, Linden
Activity:	Operation of a Manufacturing Complex for Aluminum, Steel and Prefab Concrete Products.

Poonam Hardware & Steel Products/ Poonam Engineering Services 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 Operation of a Manufacturing Complex for Aluminum, Steel and Prefab Concrete Products at Bamia, Linden hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Application for Environmental Authorisation submitted on February 20, 2023, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, existing and/or forthcoming Regulations made under the said Act, and/or any applicable laws, guidelines, best practices and standards relevant to this project.

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

1.0 CONSTRUCTION

- 1.1 Land clearing and disturbance shall be limited to areas where immediate work is taking place.
- 1.2 Construction works shall **not be executed between 18:00 hrs. to 06:00 hrs.**, on any day, close to communal areas unless, approval is sought from the EPA. This requirement does not apply for large concrete pours or asphalt

laying and earth removal where work in the early morning and late evening is required.

- 1.3 Areas for construction material stockpiles and equipment shall be clearly identified. Stockpile areas shall be downwind to avoid materials being dispersed by wind to sensitive areas. Loading and offloading activities shall, as far as possible, also be confined to this location.
- 1.4 Temporary stockpiles shall not exceed **twenty-four (24) hours** before being removed, or transferred to the designated stockpiling areas established by Condition 1.3.
- 1.5 Temporary stockpiles of construction materials, including excavated waste shall be stored in a secured, designated area, and protected from wind and water erosion.
- 1.6 Stockpiles shall not exceed the height of parameter fence.
- 1.7 Stockpiles, including dusty materials transported to, from and within the site shall be enclosed or covered to reduce air borne emissions. Where this is not practical owing to frequent usage, employ wet suppression methods such as watering or erect dust screens/fences to control emissions.
- 1.8 Install a silt fence **at least 3 meters** from the boundary of any canal, drain or river to prevent any possible contamination from construction material. The height of the silt fence shall be **no less than 3 meters**; the distance between fence posts shall **not exceed 1.2 meters (4 ft.)**, and fence posts shall be installed at a depth of **at least 0.6 meters (24 inches)**.
- 1.9 Where feasible, pre-mixed, 'ready-mixed' concrete shall be used to reduce dust emissions caused by on- site preparation.
- 1.10 Measures shall be implemented for the removal of any contamination and or siltation of drains during construction.
- 1.11 All construction equipment and machinery shall be maintained in accordance to manufacturer's specification to avoid mechanical failures and abnormal noise pollution. Logs and records signed by the appropriate inspecting personnel shall be maintained and made available for inspection by the EPA upon request.
- 1.12 All cutting of wood and mixing of cement shall be done at least 15m from the perimeter drains to minimise pollution.

2.0 OPERATION

- 2.1 An application shall be made to the Agency to vary this Permit in instances where it becomes necessary to:
 - i. change the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the project

- and all associated buildings;
 - ii. change equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the project;
 - 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.
- 2.2 A register of the quantities of paint stored onsite shall be established and maintained, and made available for inspection by the EPA upon request.
- 2.3 Emergency spill clean-up kits shall be maintained and made readily available at the Project's location. Kits must contain absorbent materials, drain seals, and other appropriate tools for clean-up.
- 2.4 Third-party contractor(s) utilised by the Project for the disposal of waste such as scrap metal shall be authorized by the EPA. Records of third-party contractors hired shall be maintained and made available for inspection by the EPA upon request.
- 2.5 Employees and third parties under the Project's direction shall be made aware of the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation.
- 2.6 **The Permit Holder shall submit to the Agency upon receipt, Central Housing and Planning Authority (CH&PA) approval for the Operation of a Manufacturing Complex.**
- 2.7 Guyana Fire Service Approval shall be obtained and maintained by the Project.
 - 2.7.1 Fire prevention and control equipment shall be maintained in accordance with this Guyana Fire Service Approval.
- 2.8 Adhere to the requirements of the **Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap. 99:01, Laws, of Guyana.**
- 3.0 **MANUFACTURING FACILITY (WIRE, STEEL ROD, WELD MESH, C-Z ROOF PURLIN & ROOF SHEETS)**
- 3.1 Servicing, maintenance, and storage of heavy-duty equipment shall be conducted within the confines of the project and on an impervious base.
- 3.2 Maintenance of machines, equipment and tools shall be conducted in accordance with manufacturer's specification. Summarised maintenance records shall be maintained by the Project and made available for inspection by the EPA upon request.
- 3.3 A drip pan shall be utilised to capture waste oil spills during servicing and

maintenance activities.

- 3.4 Spills occurring during handling and loading of paints, waste oil, etc. shall be immediately cleaned up and disposed at an EPA authorised disposal site.
- 3.5 Flammable materials shall be stored away from ignition sources. **'No Smoking'** signs shall be posted where such materials are handled and stored.

4.0 NOISE QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Noise Quality) Regulations, 2000.**
- 4.2 All noise-producing activities such as cutting, drilling and fabrication shall be conducted in a designated area.
- 4.3 All equipment and machinery shall be placed upon foundations properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations.
- 4.4 Noise emissions shall be monitored annually at the Project's boundary or at distance of 15 m (50 ft) from the noise source 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))

- 4.5 Records of all monitoring exercises shall be kept and submitted to the Agency within the **Annual Report** or upon request.

5.0 SPRAY PAINTING

- 5.1 The Best Available Technology (BAT) shall be implemented to remove vapors during spray painting operations so as to minimize the release of fugitive emissions to the environment.
- 5.2 **'NO SMOKING'** signs shall be mounted at the spray-painting area to reduce the risk of fire.
- 5.3 Spray-painting activities shall **NOT** be conducted outdoors. All spray-painting activities shall be conducted within the spray booth.
- 5.4 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.

5.5 Paint cans shall be tightly sealed and kept off the floor on pallets to reduce the occurrence of spills.

6.0 PREFAB CONCRETE PRODUCTS (U-Drain, Pole, Cylinder Pipe, etc.)

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

6.2 Raw materials such as sand and gravel shall be covered during transport to the Facility to reduce air borne emissions.

6.3 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
Carbon Monoxide	1 h	35 ppm
Nitrogen Dioxide	1 h	200 µg/m ³
Sulfur Dioxide	24 h	20 µg/m ³
PM _{2.5}	24 h	25 µg/m ³
PM ₁₀	24h	50 µg/m ³
O ₃	8h	100µg/m ³

Monitoring shall be conducted during normal operations by trained personnel utilizing calibrated equipment. The Permit Holder shall determine an air quality monitoring plan and submit this plan along with the air quality test results to the Agency as part of the **Annual Report.**

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

6.3.1 Investigate and undertake remedial action immediately;

6.3.2 Adjust the process or activity to minimise those emissions; and

6.3.3 Record the events and actions taken. This shall be submitted in the annual report.

6.5 Particulate matter and dust suppression methods shall be maintained around the stock piles and the mobile concrete batching plant which includes but not limited:

6.5.1 Wet suppression/watering shall be implemented to control dust emissions from material stockpiles, and other components of the operation that contributes to dust emissions in accordance with a schedule;

- 6.5.2 Stockpiles of sand and other dusty materials shall be located in an area of low winds as far as possible from nearby residents;
- 6.5.3 Storage of sand and stone and other aggregates on the roadway and government reserves is strictly prohibited;
- 6.5.4 Material shall be removed from the stockpile on the leeward side.
- 6.5.5 All stockpiles of sand and other dusty materials shall be covered with tarpaulin or other suitable material, when not in use for extended periods, to prevent particles from becoming airborne.
- 6.6 Temporary stockpiles of aggregates shall be stored in a secured, designated area, and protected from wind and water erosion.
 - 6.6.1 Materials shall not be placed within 3m of any drain, providing the instalment of a silt fence adequately designed and constructed to retain the stockpile.
 - 6.6.2 Stockpiles shall not exceed two (2) meters in height.
 - 6.6.3 Temporary stockpiles shall not exceed twenty-four (24) hours before being removed, or transferred to the appropriate designated stockpile areas established by Condition 5.6.2.

7.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 Adhere with the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.**
- 7.2 The discharge of untreated wastewater from the Project into the surrounding environment is **strictly prohibited.**
- 7.3 Drainage systems shall be maintained and capable of handling the probable maximum precipitation during a storm event.
- 7.4 Stormwater drains shall be kept flowing and free of debris and vegetation. Scheduled cleaning of the drainage network and the immediate environment shall be conducted.

8.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 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 an impervious base at strategic locations, both within and outside the project's boundary.



- 8.2 Burning of solid waste is **strictly prohibited**. All solid waste shall be disposed of by an EPA-authorized waste disposal company.
- 8.3 Good housekeeping, sanitary, and hygienic practices shall be maintained at all times.
- 8.4 Solid waste receptacles shall be secured when not in use.
- 8.5 Promote waste minimisation and the reuse of waste materials and other suitable materials where practical, particularly, topsoil/overburden, steel and metal waste, and other inert construction materials.
- 8.6 Records of all materials distributed/sold to other operators for the purpose of recycling or reuse shall be maintained and submitted to the Agency within the **Annual Report** or upon request.
- 8.7 The Permit Holder shall construct and maintain a septic tank system on site 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*:
- i) The septic tank shall not be located within 1.5 meters of a building or property boundary;
 - ii) septic tanks shall be installed with a sand and charcoal filter bed, or other appropriate design for further treatment; and
 - iii) shall be accessible for cleaning and de-sludging.
- 8.8 Any modification to the Septic tank shall 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*.
- 8.9 Cleaning and de-sludging of the septic tank shall be done by an EPA Authorised waste management company.
- 9.0 HAZARDOUS WASTE (Waste Oil, Oily Rags, Etc.) MANAGEMENT**
- 9.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulation 2000**.
- 9.2 Waste oil shall be stored on impervious surfaces within secondary contained areas.
- 9.3 Oil-contaminated waste from servicing and maintenance activities such as rags, etc. shall be collected, treated, and disposed of by an EPA Authorised Hazardous Waste Disposal company.

- 9.4 Hazardous waste shall be stored in sealed metal containers, appropriate for the waste stream.
- 9.5 Waste oil containers shall be labelled with the following:
- i. The words “**Waste Oil or “Used oil”**
 - ii. Beginning accumulation date
- 9.6 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. The bunded area shall provide 110% containment of the largest volume stored therein.
- 9.7 Each transport of hazardous waste shall generate a manifest. The manifest shall contain the following:
- a) The name and address of the waste generator;
 - b) The name and description of the waste and hazardous class;
 - c) The number and type of containers;
 - d) The quantity of waste being transported; and
 - e) The name and address of the facility designated to receive the waste

The transporter must sign and date the manifest upon receiving the hazardous waste from the generator. Upon completion of the transport of hazardous waste to its final destination, the hazardous waste transporter shall provide a copy of the manifest to the generator of the waste.

10.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 10.1 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency **within one (1) hour** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies (e.g., oil spills, biohazardous 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).
- 10.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 10.3 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.
- 10.4 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.

- 10.5 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).
- 10.6 Submit an **Annual Report** to the EPA on your compliance with this Permit on or before **March 31, of each year.**
- 10.7 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with the Environmental Permit:
 - i. Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit 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 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.
- 10.8 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.
- 10.9 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.


11.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/ LIABILITIES


- 11.1 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.
- 11.2 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.
- 11.3 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.


- 11.4 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.
- 11.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 6.4 and 6.5 of this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 11.6 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.
- 11.7 The Permit Holder shall be liable for 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.
- 11.8 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.
- 11.9 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.
- 11.10 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.
- 11.11 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 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.

- 11.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel, or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 11.13 **This Environmental Permit is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions shall be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 11.14 This Environmental Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein; **September 2023- August 2028.**
- 11.15 This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **August 31, 2028**, 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.
- 11.16 This Permit shall 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 **February 29, 2028.**
- 11.17 Any late submission of a renewal application 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 (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.
- 11.18 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 2023.10.12

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

NAME	CARRING HECTOR
DATE	25-10-2023
SIGNATURE	
DESIGNATION	Manager

