



Government of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana
Environmental Protection Agency



January 20, 2025

Ref#: 20240607- MSRSG

Mr. Ravi Griffith & Mr. Rashleigh Sam,
Directors
Building Progressive Innovation Enterprise,
Lot 26 Green Acres,
Providence,
East Bank Demerara



Dear Mr. Griffith and Mr. Sam,

Re: Environmental Permit for the Storage of Mercury and CNLITE (Only)

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has prepared an Environmental Permit for Building Progressive Innovation Enterprise for the Storage of Mercury and CNLITE (Only) at Tract 'SM', a portion of parcel 3572 situated at North Aubrey Barker Road, Plantation Ruimveldt, Georgetown, East Bank Demerara.

Please sign the Environmental Permit to indicate your acceptance of its terms and conditions and agreement to comply with the statutory requirements of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

The cost for the Permit is **US\$2500 for Five (5) years (i.e., US\$500 per year)**. You are required to pay this fee or its equivalent in Guyana dollars using the Bank of Guyana Inc. daily exchange rate. Payment can be made to the Environmental Protection Agency in cash, Manager's or Personal Cheque in Guyana dollars. Please note that Personal Cheques written in United States dollars will not be accepted.

Should you have any questions or require further clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact **Ms. Cindy Persaud - Environmental Officer, Manufacturing/Industry Department**, by telephone number 225-0506 (Ext. 2365) or email- industry@epaguyana.org.

Yours sincerely,


Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director



Ganges St., Sophia, Georgetown, GUYANA.

Tel: (592) 225-5467/5471-5472/6044/6048 | Fax: 225-5481



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www.epaguyana.org



Environmental Protection Agency - Guyana

"The Environment is Everybody's Business"

Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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Tel.: (592) 225-0506
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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.:	20240607- MSRSG
Fee:	Medium (C1) - US\$500 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$2500 for Five Years (5) years – (January 2025 to December 2029).
Addressee:	Mr. Ravi Griffith & Mr. Rashleigh Sam, Directors Building Progressive Innovation Enterprise, Lot 26 Green Acres, Providence, East Bank Demerara
Activity:	Storage of Mercury and CNLITE (Only)

Building Progressive Innovation Enterprise, 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 Store Mercury and CNLITE (Only) at Tract 'SM', a portion of parcel 3572 situated at North Aubrey Barker Road, Plantation Ruimveldt, Georgetown hereinafter referred to as the “Project,” in a manner indicated in the Application for Environmental Authorisation submitted on October 11, 2024, and 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 applicable 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 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**

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R.S.

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- effluents; or
- iv. effect any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.2. Obtain approval for the use and management of toxic chemicals shall be obtained from the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Control Board. A copy of this Approval shall be kept on site and made available to the EPA upon request.
- 1.3. **The Permit Holder shall submit to the Agency upon receipt, Central Housing and Planning Authority (CH&PA) approval for the Storage of Mercury and CNLITE (Only) and the relevant Municipality or any other authority with jurisdiction and oversight over the Project.**
- 1.4. The Permit Holder shall submit an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) for the Storage of Mercury to the Agency for approval, which shall include but not be limited to the following areas: -
- i. Safety codes in the mercury storage area;
 - ii. Labeling;
 - iii. Inspection;
 - iv. Inventory
 - v. Mercury Spill Kit
- 1.5. The ERP shall clearly outline and identify Mechanisms, protocols and implementation schedules, responsibilities, and associated costs. The safety policy for this refinery must be clearly articulated by the company.
- 1.6. Emergency spill clean-up kits shall be maintained at the Project for response to spills. Kits must contain absorbent materials, drain seals and other appropriate tools for clean-up. Kits must be readily available and clearly identified at the Project.
- 1.7. The Safety Data Sheet for Mercury shall be located on site and easily accessible to staff and other officials visiting the site.
- 1.8. The Mercury Storage area shall be clearly marked with warning signs containing the following information:

“Warning: Toxic Mercury Storage Area”

- 1.9. The flooring in storage area shall be covered with mercury resistant materials, such as an epoxy coating, and should be light-colored to allow the detection of mercury droplets/leakage.
- 1.10. Where indoor air is vented outside, particularly from storage and handling area, such venting shall be done via activated carbon or other mercury capture systems.
- 1.11. A register of the quantities of mercury stored onsite shall be maintained. The registered information shall be kept on site and made available to the EPA upon request.

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- 1.12 Flasks within which mercury is stored shall meet the following criteria:
- Must not be damaged from any materials previously stored in them or have contained materials that could adversely react with mercury;
 - Must not be excessively corroded;
 - Must have a protective coating (paint) to prevent corrosion;
 - Must be gas and liquid-tight.
- 1.13 Storage flask labels shall include the following information:
- The names of the suppliers of the mercury;
 - The level and purity of the mercury;
 - The gross and net weight;
 - The date when the mercury was injected into the flask;
 - A "corrosives" label indicating that the container contains corrosive materials.
- 1.14 Mercury shall be transported by an EPA authorised transportation provider. Personnel who are transporting mercury shall be trained in emergency response as well as mercury handling and transport.
- 1.15 The Guyana Fire Service approval shall be obtained and maintained, and fire protection measures such as fire extinguishers and sand buckets shall be provided in accordance with this approval.
- 1.16 All firefighting equipment shall be maintained and serviced according to the Guyana Fire Service requirements.
- 1.17 Adhere to the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap. 99:01, Laws, of Guyana.

2.0 WATER QUALITY

- 2.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.**
- 2.2 Storm water discharge shall be directed away from Mercury Storage Area.
- 2.3 Any **mercury spills** occurring during handling and loading of these materials, **shall be** immediately cleaned and disposed as guided by the respective Safety Data Sheet.
- 2.4 Mercury shall not be stored outside to prevent release of mercury into soil, surface water or ground water.
- 2.5 Storage area floors shall not be penetrated by any drains or plumbing to avoid trapping mercury in unwanted areas and to facilitate the collection of spills.

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Guyana R.S

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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 shall be placed upon impervious base at strategic locations, both within and outside facility.
- 3.2 Solid waste shall not be burnt on site. All solid waste shall be disposed by an EPA Authorised Waste Disposal Company.
- 3.3 Good house-keeping, sanitary, and hygienic practices shall be maintained at all times.
- 3.4 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).

4.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 4.1 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency **within one (1) hour** of the occurrence of any 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).
- 4.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees.
- 4.3 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.
- 4.4 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.
- 4.5 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).
- 4.6 Submit an **Annual Report** 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**.
- 4.7 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 Authorisation becomes aware of the non-compliance outlining the anticipated manner in which human health or the environment may be impacted.

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- 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.

4.8 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.

4.9 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.

5.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/ LIABILITIES

5.1 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.

5.2 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.

5.3 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.

5.4 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.

5.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 5.3 and 5.4 of this Environmental Permit pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

5.6 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.

5.7 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

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contaminant fluids, oil or lubricants.


- 5.8 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.
- 5.9 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.
- 5.10 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, and the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 5.11 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.
- 5.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 5.13 **This Environmental Permit is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 5.14 This Environmental Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein; **January 2025 to December 2029.**
- 5.15 This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **December 31, 2029**, 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.
- 5.16 This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed Renewed Application Form for Environmental Authorisation to the Agency at least six months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **June 30, 2029.**
- 5.17 Any late submission of renewal application (s) after the specified date as stated above,

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the agency may 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.

- 5.18 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.


Signed by  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency

Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director

Executive Director

Date 2025.01.20

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 forthcoming regulations, guidelines, best practices and standards made under this Act.

NAME	Rashleigh Eric Seretse Sam
DATE	27/01/2025
SIGNATURE	
DESIGNATION	Director



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