



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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Operation 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.:	20190325-EIEAB
Fee:	Large (C2) – US\$2,000 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$10,000: Five (5) Years (March 2021 – February 2026)
Addressee:	Mr. Dexter Charles Elicha Investment and Construction Inc. Moraballi Quarry Project 228, South Road Lacytown Georgetown
Activity:	Operation of a Stone Quarry



Mr Dexter Charles, trading and operating under the name Elicha Investment and Construction 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 operate a quarry located at Moraballi River Area, Essequibo River, Region No. 10, hereinafter referred to as the “Project”, in the manner indicated in the Application submitted on March 25, 2019, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, 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.

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

1.0 GENERAL

- 1.1 Submit within **three (3) months** after issuance of the Operation Permit (Renewed) an **Environmental Management Plan** that identifies any potential environmental impacts, human risks and feasible cost-effective measures to mitigate impacts so as to manage/reduce potential environmental impacts to biodiversity, water quality, air quality, and soil degradation to an acceptable level and (b) a **Monitoring and Emergency Plan**.

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- 1.2 Submit within **three (3) months** after the issuance of this Operation Permit (Renewed) a **Spill Response Plan** that also identifies where refuelling will be taking place and the distance of storage tanks from sensitive receptors.
- 1.3 Notify the Agency in writing and obtain its approval for **ANY** proposed changes to the operation of the Quarry **at least fourteen (14) days prior** to making the change. The notification shall contain a **description of the proposed change in the 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, including but not limited to the following:
- i. Changes in construction, structure, layout of the facility;
 - ii. Installation of new and/or changes to equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility or operation; and
 - iii. Any technology installed at the facility from which effluent may be discharged.
- 1.4 Operate only within the description of the block granted by the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC) as is described herein: Point A, located at geographical coordinates of longitude 58°47'2"W and latitude 5°27'53"N, thence at true bearing of 101°, for a distance of approximately 2 mile 661 yards to Point B, located geographical coordinates of longitude 58°45'0"W and latitude 5°27'29"N, thence at true bearing of 128°, for a distance of approximately 1 mile 1265 yards to Point C, located at geographical coordinates of longitude 58°43'49"W and latitude 5°26'34"N, thence at true bearing of 217°, for a distance of approximately 890 yards, to Point D, located at geographical coordinates of longitude 58°44'5"W and latitude 5°26'13"N, thence at true bearing of 310°, for a distance of approximately 1 mile 1013 yards, to Point E, located at geographical coordinates of longitude 58°45'8"W and latitude 5°27'6"N, thence at true bearing of 281°, for a distance of approximately 2 miles 483 yards, to the point F, located at geographical coordinates of longitude 58°47'5"W and latitude 5°27'25"N, thence at true bearing of 7°, for a distance of approximately 850 yards, to the point of commencement at Point A., to the point F, located at geographical coordinates of longitude 58°47'5"W and latitude 5°27'25"N, thence at true bearing of Operate only within the description of the block granted by the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC) as is described herein: Point A, located at geographical coordinates of longitude 58°47'2"W and latitude 5°27'53"N, thence at true bearing of 101°, for a distance of approximately 2 mile 661 yards to Point B, located geographical coordinates of longitude 58°45'0"W and latitude 5°27'29"N, thence at true bearing of 128°, for a distance of approximately 1 mile 1265 yards to Point C, located at geographical coordinates of longitude 58°43'49"W and latitude 5°26'34"N, thence at true bearing of 217°, for a distance of approximately 890 yards, to Point D, located at geographical coordinates of longitude 58°44'5"W and latitude

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5°26'13"N, thence at true bearing of 310°, for a distance of approximately 1 mile 1013 yards, to Point E, located at geographical coordinates of longitude 58°45'8"W and latitude 5°27'6"N, thence at true bearing of 281°, for a distance of approximately 2 miles 483 yards, to the point F, located at geographical coordinates of longitude 58°47'5"W and latitude 5°27'25"N, thence at true bearing of 7°, for a distance of approximately 850 yards, to the point of commencement at Point A., for a distance of approximately 850 yards, to the point of commencement at Point A.

- 1.5 Not undertake any development activity which may significantly affect the environment other than those activities covered by this Permit without prior approval from the EPA.
- 1.6 Adhere to the stipulations within the **Mining Act, No. 20 of 1989**, the **Mining Regulations** including the **Mining (Amendment) Regulations, 2005**, the **Explosives Act, Cap 16:06**, the **Blasting Operations Act, Cap 65:03**, and **Regulations of the Maritime Administration Department of the Ministry of Public Infrastructure**.
- 1.7 Demarcate boundary limits for the site claim. Ensure proper signage and security measures to keep unauthorized persons from accessing restricted and high-risk areas.
- 1.8 Ensure that transportation of quarry materials by tugs and/or barges to and from the project site does not encumber traffic on the Demerara River, and is done in accordance with the requirements of the **Maritime Administration Department**.

2.0 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 2.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap. 99:01, Laws of Guyana**.
- 2.2 Ensure all employees are aware of the Conditions of the Operation Permit and provide them with training on good environmental management practices, occupational health and safety and of their obligations under this Permit.
- 2.3 Employees must, at all times, be equipped with the necessary personal protective gear to fit their job specification such as: hi-visibility vests, respirator, hard hats, gloves, and appropriate footwear and ensure appropriate utilization of these gear. Prepare and maintain an employee log of distribution of Personal Protective Equipment.
- 2.4 Ensure that proper prophylactic or other acceptable measures are implemented to protect workers and other persons from malaria and other harmful diseases at the project site.

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- 2.5 Ensure that all foods, raw and refrigerated, are stored in accordance with the **World Health Organisation (WHO) International Food Standards (Codex Alimentarius)** by the Environmental Health Unit of the Ministry of Health.
- 2.6 Provide and maintain adequate fire protection measures, in accordance with guidelines established by the Guyana Fire Service.
- 2.7 Provide first aid at the work site and ensure that communication and transportation systems are in place to respond to emergencies.


3.0 VEGETATION CLEARING AND TOP SOIL STRIPPING

- 3.1 Ensure that topsoil cleared from working areas is stripped carefully and reused immediately for rehabilitation of worked areas. Where reuse cannot be accomplished immediately, the topsoil must be stockpiled in a suitable storage site until such time for reuse.
- 3.2 Ensure vegetative debris is incorporated and stored with top soil to keep it active for reuse in site reclamation. In addition, practical measures, such as growing of vegetation such as shrubs and grasses on stockpiles of topsoil should be employed to reduce erosion, and dust nuisance to surrounding ecosystems.
- 3.3 Store overburden stockpiles away from the drainage system at least **100 meters** away from any water courses. Runoff from this overburden must be directed to the sedimentation/settling pond for treatment before discharge.
- 3.4 Ensure that sediment control structures such as soakaways, settlement/water detention ponds and silt fences, are implemented at the site(s).
- 3.5 Maintain the integrity of areas where riparian vegetation is located to aid in mitigating erosion/sedimentation impacts at the site.
- 3.6 Where possible, topsoil should be placed directly onto an area being rehabilitated to reduce double handling of soil.
- 3.7 Ensure that all topsoil is kept separate from all overburden and gravel for use as backfill during progressive reclamation. Topsoil should be replaced in its natural sequence during reclamation activities.

4.0 DRILLING AND BLASTING

- 4.1 Submit a detailed **Drilling and Blasting Plan**, approved by the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, **One (1) month** after issuance of the Permit. Adhere to the Protocols of the Drilling and Blast Plan; any modification of the said Plan must be approved by the Commission and submitted to the Agency within **two (2) weeks** from date of approval.

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- 4.2 Employ a drilling and blasting supervisor, who is certified and licensed by the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC).
- 4.3 Ensure the appropriate blast design parameters are in place prior to the actual blasting. Attain minimum ground vibration by the utilisation of:
- Appropriate delay intervals for charge ignition.
 - Appropriate pattern.
 - Orientation of blast holes.
 - Confinement of the charge.
- 4.4 Ensure secondary blasting is avoided as much as possible, rather, drop balling, using a heavy mass operated by a dragline/excavator should be considered.
- 4.5 Employ a drilling and blasting supervisor, who is certified and licensed by the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC).
- 4.6 Conduct air quality tests using gas detection equipment subsequent to each blast to ensure the mine is clear of blasting agents before re-entry. These tests shall be conducted by trained personnel.
- 4.7 Ensure that a review of the blast design is undertaken where necessary including the size of the Maximum Instantaneous Charges (MICs) and detonating sequence and that the correct stemming is in place.
- 4.8 Ensure that all measures such as the use of deck charges are utilized to reduce ground vibrations.
- 4.9 Ensure the use, storage, transport, handling, and general management of explosives are done in accordance with relevant laws and regulations including the **Explosives Act, Cap 16:06**, and subsequent amendments and the requirements of the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission and the Guyana Police Force.
- 4.10 Ensure that all sites are evacuated and guarded before shots are fired. A distinctive **audible warning signal** must be given before firing and at the all-clear. In addition, notify nearby communities and homesteads of blasting times.

5.0 CRUSHING PLANT

- 5.1 Ensure that the crushing plant and ancillary equipment are operated in strict compliance with the manufacturer's specifications.

6.0 ROADS

- 6.1 Construct and maintain all roads to ensure good drainage and dust management. The running surface of the road should be crowned with a compacted layer and

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possess good drainage on both sides to catch and direct water to the local drainage system. In addition, the road should be soaked as needed in areas close to housing to not exceed ambient dust conditions.

- 6.2 Ensure that adequate and appropriate road signage is installed with provisions for safe line of sight along all access roads and tracks. Signs should inform users of dangerous bends, crossing of haul trucks, vehicle speed limits, etc.
- 6.3 Ensure that activities as they relate to operation and maintenance of roads, drainage ditches, culverts and or berms, etc. are done in a manner that results in minimal impact on public health and the environment.
- 6.4 Ensure that all reasonable and practical measures such as the provision of turnout drains at regular intervals are implemented to prevent erosion of roads. Runoff from roads, stockpile areas, etc., should not be discharged directly to natural water ways such as the Moraballi River and/or Essequibo River and any of their tributaries within or contiguous to the Project site.
- 6.5 Ensure roads are sloped and constructed to minimise the likelihood of soil erosion.

7.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT


- 7.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.**
- 7.2 Maintain the integrity of the existing waterways at all times. Discharges into the environment should be in accordance with the *Guyana National Bureau of Standards Interim Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment*. The following maximum allowable limits should not be exceeded:
 - pH 5.0 - 9.0;
 - Temperature < 40 °C;
 - Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) < 50 mg/L;
 - Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) < 250 mg/L;
 - Total Suspended Solids (TSS) < 100 mg/L;
 - Oil and Grease < 20 mg/L;
 - N as NH₃ < 50mg/L;
 - Total Dissolved Solid (TDS) < 200 mg/L;
 - *E. coli* < 0 count/100ml
 - Total coliform < count/100ml; and
 - Turbidity < 30 NTU.
- 7.3 Monitor the water quality for the parameters listed in above 7.2 above within the **Essequibo River** and **Moraballi River** on a biannual basis, (once in the wet season and once in the dry season). Water monitoring values should be compared to the standards listed above in 7.2. River samples should be obtained from the

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following sample points:

- a) At the point of discharge of the quarry into the Mazaruni River;
 - b) Upstream of discharge point and
 - c) Downstream discharge point
- 7.4 Channel/route storm water constructed cut-off drains into a forested or vegetated zone to allow natural filtration before entering the river.
- 7.5 Install sediment control structures such as sediment traps and screens to prevent the inflow of sediments to surface water.
- 7.6 Ensure that waste/spoil piles are surrounded by perimeter berms to manage sediment discharge.
- 7.7 Ensure erosion susceptible areas or areas with a high erosion potential are sloped, benched or lined with erosion control structures to manage surface runoff.
- 7.8 Store fuel, lubricants, coolant, acid-generating materials and waste oil in an approved manner, such as in drums or surface tanks with impervious bunds to contain spillage. Ensure that the areas assigned for storage of fuel, lubricants, coolants, acid-generating materials and waste oil are located away from operating areas, drainage lines and major waterways.
- 7.9 Implement practical measures to prevent pollution of the nearby rivers, streams and natural water ways.
- 7.10 Establish and maintain the vegetative **ninety (90) meters** buffer zone between the rock deposit and the **Moraballi River** to reduce erosion.
- 7.11 Construct and maintain a good drainage system capable of handling the probable maximum precipitation storm event at all facilities. Storm water discharge should be directed into an appropriately designed sediment ponds before discharged into surrounding waterways.
- 7.12 Silt fences should be installed at discharge points of drainage systems to reduce the sediment loads entering sediment ponds.
- 7.13 As far as possible, divert surface water runoff from higher mine benches to prevent it from reaching lower workings. Where possible, strategically place low permeability materials to restrict water flow into mining areas.
- 7.14 Implement practical measures to prevent pollution of the nearby rivers, streams and natural water ways. Domestic waste water shall not be discharged directly into watercourses. Install a filter treatment system at the domestic water discharge point for further treatment before discharge.

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8.0 FUEL, AND HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

8.1 **Adhere** to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Wastes Management) Regulations, 2000**.

8.2 Prepare and submit to the Agency no later than **forty-five (45)** days after the end of the operating year, a report relating to the activities for the previous year. The report shall include:

- The name, location and type of facility.
- Types and quantities (in metric units) of hazardous waste generated.
- Manner of storage, use, any applied treatment standards/methods and disposal of these substances.
- Data concerning off-site shipments of waste, i.e. local disposal facility utilised, country to which hazardous waste was shipped, purpose of shipment and amount of waste shipped.
- A summary of any accidents that may have occurred and any action taken.
- Any waste minimisation efforts undertaken by your facility for hazardous material/waste.
- Any other matter the Agency may require.

The Agency considers all materials listed in Schedules I and II of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Wastes Management) Regulations, 2000**, to be hazardous. (Please see attached list of Hazardous Waste to be controlled and form for reporting, on the above-mentioned information.)

8.3 Notify the Agency of the company's intention to utilise any hazardous chemicals at the operation site and/or submit the approvals obtained from the **Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC)** and/or **Pesticides & Toxic Chemicals Control Board (PTCCB)** for the use of such chemicals.

8.4 Obtain, under the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Regulations, a separate licence for the use of poisonous substances.

8.5 Prepare and submit to the Agency an **Emergency Preparedness Plan** for approval by the Agency **three (3) months** after the issuance of the Permit. The plan shall include:

- a) Accident prevention procedures.
- b) First person response.
- c) Notification procedures.
- d) Location and type of clean-up equipment.
- e) An analysis of potential accident and responses.
- f) Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for all hazardous materials on the site.

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- 8.6 All hazardous materials should be stored in accordance with their specific Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).
- 8.7 Establish and maintain a register of hazardous materials or chemicals at the operations sites along with the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). The register should be made available to the EPA upon request and available to all personnel.
- 8.8 Construct and maintain adequate containment with an impervious surface for the storage and handling of all hazardous materials, oils, lubricants and fuels. Containment should be constructed to store 110% of the total volume of the largest tank. Oil-water separators must be installed where necessary.
- 8.9 Ensure that all fuel or hazardous materials and waste are stored away from ignition sources and have **"No Smoking"** signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 8.10 Ensure all potential spills of fuel, oil, or other hazardous materials are prevented or cleaned up in accordance with the Spill Contingency Plan.
- 8.11 Maintain emergency spill cleanup kits and equipment on site for response to potential spills.
- 8.12 Refrain from draining fuel/lubricants including used/waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways.
- 8.13 Petroleum/chemicals containers must be suspended or placed on stands so that leaks are easily identifiable. All chemical storage containers should be kept in well-sealed and individually labeled containers and properly stored in an impervious and well-ventilated room/bond.
- 8.14 Take the necessary precautionary measures during the transport and use of fuel and other chemicals/hazardous materials. In addition, implement a programme to ensure regular and preventative maintenance of machinery and equipment to prevent leaks and minimise air emissions and hydrocarbon releases.

9.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 9.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013.**
- 9.2 Promote proper solid waste management and disposal practices at your facility. Waste shall not be disposed of in or near the waterways. Reduction and reuse of waste should be promoted.
- 9.3 Ensure that solid waste pits are located at least one hundred (100) meters away from watercourses, or habitation. The waste sites should be constructed above the

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ground water table and lined to the floor with an impervious earthen or other material to prevent leaching to ground water.

- 9.4 Maintain good house-keeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of the surroundings at all times.
- 9.5 Ensure that garbage receptacles are placed in strategic locations within the project site. Have separate bins to facilitate the collection and sorting of waste according to liquid and solids; organic and inorganic; degradable and non-degradable. Used tyres and batteries should be re-used or disposed of in a manner approved by the EPA.
- 9.6 Ensure that all pit latrines onsite are modified to facilitate improved ventilation in keeping with **Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS)**.
- 9.7 Construct and maintain a septic tank system which should be accessible for cleaning and de-sludging. Any modification to the Septic Tank (s) 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*.
- 9.8 All on-board waste from the tugs and barges should be collected and disposed of at the intended destination. **At no time, should waste be dumped over-board.**

10.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

- 10.1 Adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000** and the **Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000**.
- 10.2 Comply with the *Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment* for *Guidelines for Noise Emissions 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** (Day-time (06:00-18:00 h))
 80 dB (Night -time (18:00-06:00 h))

- 10.3 Submit to the Agency, the location of **all** sample points for noise monitoring; inclusive of GPS location and justification of sample points when they are established.

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- 10.4 Comply with the *World Health Organisation (WHO) Air Quality Guidelines for Particulate Matter in the Environment*, not exceeding the limits below:


PM_{2.5}: 10 µg/m³ annual mean
25 µg/m³ 24-hour mean

PM₁₀: 20 µg/m³ annual mean
50 µg/m³ 24-hour mean

- 10.5 Take all necessary precautions to reduce any instances of air emissions into the environment from the operation. Establish and maintain the vegetative buffer zone between the Quarry and the Moraballi River and other contiguous land uses to buffer noise and fugitive dust emissions.
- 10.6 Ensure measures are taken to avoid or reduce dust pollution from the mines. Dust suppressants i.e. water soaking etc. shall be used during dry season and as necessary.
- 10.7 Equip all sound - making devices, e.g. generators, etc. with silencers or mufflers to reduce noise level and/ or enclose all sound making devices in structures constructed with materials of good insulation properties (e.g. hollow concrete blocks, insulation boards, solid clay bricks, etc.)
- 10.8 Ensure that the exhaust stack of the generator is of an appropriate height, preferably above the tallest building nearby, to minimise adverse fumes/soot impacts to contiguous areas.
- 10.9 Ensure that all equipment and machinery are placed on foundations properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations.
- 10.10 Operate and service all mechanical equipment in accordance with manufacturer's specifications at all times. Additionally, ensure that mechanical equipment and vehicles are regularly maintained and work at their optimal levels to minimise atmospheric emissions.
- 10.11 Employ all practical measures along haul roads, stockpile areas, and other necessary areas to control and prevent fugitive dust impacts during operation of the plant. Dust-suppression methods, such as wetting, should be used, as necessary. Special consideration should also be taken of prevailing wind direction, where necessary.

11.0 BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION

- 11.1 Establish vegetation around production facilities and along access roads to mitigate the impact on terrestrial resources.

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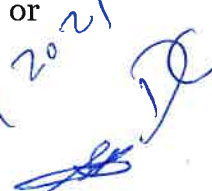
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- 11.2 Undertake construction, including clearing of vegetation at a pace slow enough to ensure that terrestrial animals and aquatic life can move to other locations.
- 11.3 Communicate to employees that the capture, trading and/or removal of endangered and vulnerable wildlife from the project area and surrounding areas is forbidden, in accordance with the **Wildlife Conservation and Management Act, 2016**, and any of its applicable forthcoming Regulations.

12.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 12.1 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this **Operation Permit**, insofar as they involve adherence by employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 12.2 Submit **Environmental Annual Reports** to the EPA on or before **March 31** every year on your compliance with this Permit. (*See Guidelines for the Preparation of Environmental Annual Reports attached*).
- 12.3 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 a combination of any of them).
- 12.4 Ensure the reports and records of monitoring include the following:
- The names of the individuals and designations, who conducted sampling, prepared and compiled the reports;
 - The date, place/location, time, weather conditions, techniques and methods used in sampling;
 - The date the measurements were compiled or analysed and the names of the individuals who compiled the information;
 - Observations, readings, calculations, benchmarks, bench data, the results of analyses;
 - Limitations of the sampling process and all other occurrence at the time of study, which may affect the results;
 - Photographs and drawings of all relevant aspects of the operation; and
 - The state of operation of facilities at the time of measurement, including planned and unplanned shutdowns, production levels and achievement of design capacity, identification of release point, source of release and substances being released.
- 12.5 Comply with any lawful directions given by the EPA from time-to-time in furtherance of the implementation of any international or other obligations for the environmental protection.
- 12.6 Inform the Agency prior to or within **thirty (30) days** of any change of name or ownership of the operation.

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- 12.7 Notify the Agency within **twenty-one (21) days** in event of bankruptcy, liquidation or receivership of the Permit Holder or if the Company becomes a party to an amalgamation.
- 12.8 Notify the EPA **within twenty-four (24) hours** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies such as a sudden 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.
- 12.9 Report to the Agency of non-compliance (s) with the **Operation Permit (Renewed)**:
- 12.9.1 Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Operation Permit becomes aware of the non-compliance, the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.
 - 12.9.2 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.
 - 12.9.3 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.
- 12.10 Implement relevant measures/agreements to avoid conflicts with other land users/communities. Conflicts should be reported to the relevant authorities if they occur.
- 12.11 Report all occurrences of illegal wildlife trapping and trading to the EPA and Wildlife Management Authority.
- 12.12 Inform the **National Trust and Walter Roth Museum** if any artefacts of archaeological and anthropological significance are unearthed during BK Quarries Inc operations.
- 12.13 Submit to the EPA the results of all periodic audits conducted by the GGMC.
- 12.14 Immediately notify the EPA within **twenty (24) hours** of any accidental release of contaminants or incidence of pollution into the environment. The Permit Holder shall provide the financial, equipment and technical capacity to adequately respond to any emergency that may occur on site and emergency response shall be immediate.
- 12.15 Submit to the Agency a detailed **Project Closure Plan** for **three (3) months** after the issuance of this Permit. Thereafter, the closure plan will be updated and reviewed at a frequency agreed to with the Agency, as needed.

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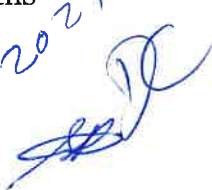
13.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 13.1 The Permit Holder shall be strictly liable for any loss or damage to the environment through any act caused intentionally or recklessly, through the adverse effect of any discharge or release, or cause or permit the entry of pollution, contaminant in any amount, concentration or level in excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by any environmental authorisation which are attributed to any Project (and more specifically petroleum activities). Section 19(1) and (2) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 13.2 The Permit Holder shall comply strictly with section 39(1), (2), (3) and (4) of the Environmental Protection Act Cap 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 13.3 The Permit Holder shall strictly observe section 19(3) of the Environmental Protection Act Cap 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 13.4 The Permit Holder may be liable for environmental damage due to pollution from its activities within Guyana.
- 13.5 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 (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 13.6 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 s. 38 of Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, 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 be liable to penalties prescribed under paragraph (c) of the Fifth Schedule for doing so.
- 13.7 The EPA reserves the right to review/amend the conditions 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.
- 13.8 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 13.9 This Operation Permit (Renewed) is not the final consent; all relevant permission should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.
- 13.10 The Permit Holder shall compensate any Party who suffers any loss of damage as a result of the attributed project. (Part V, s.19 (3) (e) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

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- 13.11 The Permit Holder shall be responsible for the payment of all cost related to the assessment of damage and costs for the independent assessor(s).
- 13.12 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.
- 13.13 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 s. 26 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap.20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 13.14 Where it appears to the Agency (EPA) 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 Permit Holder shall be issued with a Prohibition Notice Order to immediately cease the offending activity in accordance with s. 27 Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 13.15 Where the Permit Holder in accordance with s. 19(3) is found liable for the contaminant or for the process involving the contaminant or who causes or permits a discharge as aforementioned in relation to above, the Permit Holder shall:
- Immediately notify the Agency of the discharge;
 - Concentration and amount of contaminant;
 - Circumstances of the discharge; and
 - What action he/she has taken or intends to take to restore the natural environment; and
 - Be liable to pay for the cost of an independent investigation into the discharge.
- 13.16 The Permit Holder shall be liable of any gross negligence or willful misconduct caused by the Permit Holder and/or Agents, to the marine environment, biodiversity, protected species and natural habitat with respect to any release or discharge, spill, contaminant fluids, oil or lubricants from the fuel storage at any facilities permitted under this project.
- 13.17 This Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein **March 2021 to February, 2026**. This Operation Permit shall remain valid until **February 28, 2026**, unless otherwise cancelled, suspended, modified or varied in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisation) Regulations, 2000.
- 13.18 This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed *Application Form for Renewal of Environmental Authorization* to the Agency at least six (6) months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **August 31, 2025**.

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- 13.19 Any late submission of renewal application(s) after the specified date as stated above, shall 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 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.
- 13.20 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to civil penalties and/or injunctive reliefs prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Law of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations 2000, including under any existing and forthcoming regulations made under the said Act or any other applicable Laws of Guyana.

Signed by Sharifah Razack on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.



Date: 2021. 03. 11

I hereby accept the above terms and conditions upon which this Operation Permit (Renewed) 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 (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, and any existing or forthcoming regulations, best practices, guidelines and standards made under this Act.

NAME:	<u>Dexter Emel Charles</u>
DESIGNATION:	<u>Director</u>
SIGNATURE:	<u>[Signature]</u>
DATE:	<u>15/03/2021</u>



15/03/2021
[Signature]