



**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 Regulations, 2000)

Reference No.:	20090114 -GGIOO
Fee:	Extra Large (C2) – US\$15,500 (5 years) i.e., US\$3100 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$15,500 (February, 2023 –January, 2028)

Addressee(s): Carl Chen
Health Safety and Environment Director
Aurora Gold Mine Incorporated (AGM Inc.)
(Zi Jin Mining Group Co. Ltd)
Third Floor, R & S Mall
Apartment District
Track C, Mandela Avenue
Durban Backlands
Georgetown, Guyana

Activity: Gold Mining and Processing

AGM Inc. (Zi Jin Mining Group Co. Ltd), hereinafter referred to as the “Permit Holder”, is hereby authorised in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, Law of Guyana, Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000, to undertake Gold Mining and Processing at Aurora, Cuyuni River, Region 07, hereinafter referred to as the “Project” in the manner indicated in the Application for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation dated April 19, 2022, the approved Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) dated March, 2010, submitted in May, 2010, Updated ESIA submitted in June, 2021, all of which may be updated from time to time, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein and any forthcoming laws, regulations, best practices, approvals, directives, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

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This is a Renewal of Environmental Permit (Renewed and Varied), Reference Number 20090114-GGIOO, issued on October 04, 2017 and expired on September 30, 2022. This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

Terms and Conditions for Operation:

The Permit Holder shall:

1.0 GENERAL

- 1.1 Make an application to the Agency to vary this Environmental Permit (Renewed) in instances where it becomes necessary to:
- a) change the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and all associated buildings;
 - b) change equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility;
 - c) change the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents;
 - d) or effect any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.2 Adhere to the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and the Institutional Requirements for the Management Plan including *inter alia* **Overburden Management, Water Management, Tailings Pond Management, Explosives Management, Cyanide Management, Catchment Area Management, Social Management Plan, Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, Mine Reclamation and Closure Plan, Spill Prevention, Control and Contingency Plan, Biodiversity Management Plan, ESHS Monitoring Plan, Hazardous Materials Management Plan, Influx Management Plan, Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan, Community Relations Management Plan and the Industrial Accident and Management Plan**, as detailed in the final ESIA Report (May, 2010) and Updated ESIA Report (July, 2021).
- 1.3 Maintain demarcated boundary limits for the site claim. Ensure proper signage and security measures to keep unauthorized persons from accessing restricted and high-risk areas.
- 1.4 Obtain approval from the Guyana Fire Service, and provide fire protection measures such as fire extinguishers, water trucks and dozers in accordance with this approval.
- 1.5 Ensure all fire-fighting equipment are maintained and serviced regularly.

- 1.6 At all times, undertake all phases of the project in a manner that will minimize adverse impacts on public health and the environment.
- 1.7 Adhere to the stipulations within the **Mining Act, No. 20 of 1989**, the **Mining Regulations including the Mining (Amendment) Regulations, 2005**, the **Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Act, No. 13 of 2000**, the **Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Regulations, No. 8 of 2004**, the **Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals (Amendment) Regulations, No. 8 of 2007**, and **Regulations of the Maritime Administration Department of the Ministry of Public Infrastructure**.
- 1.8 Incorporate the International Finance Corporation/World Bank Group Environment, Health, and Safety Guidelines for Mining in the final design of all facilities and processes.
- 1.9 Design new structures and facilities above and below ground to meet acceptable national and international requirements and standards.
- 1.10 Limit surface disturbance in the areas identified for tailings and water management ponds, the mine, the processing facility, ancillary facilities and the access road to the minimum required for safe construction and operation of the approved facilities.
- 1.11 Promote and run health awareness campaigns especially on HIV and STDs amongst workers as well as local communities upstream and downstream of the project site.
- 1.12 Actively discourage the influx of persons not employed by the Company into the mining concession and do not allow outsiders to settle on its periphery.

2.0 EMPLOYEES & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 2.1 Operate in accordance with the **Occupational Safety and Health Act No. 32 of 1997**.
- 2.2 Ensure all employees and third-party contractors are equipped with the necessary protective equipment relevant to the occupational tasks during operation. These Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must include but not be limited to:
 - a) Safety helmets;
 - b) Protective respiratory devices
 - c) Safety boots with ankle support;
 - d) Gloves with reinforced palms and fingers; and

e) Safety goggles.

(Employees shall at all times be well protected)

- 2.3 Make all employees aware of the Conditions of the Environmental Permit (Renewed), and provide training on good environmental management practices, occupational health and safety, and of their obligations under this Permit.
- 2.4 Continue to keep in your employment, a Health Safety and Environmental (HSE) Officer(s) who would be responsible for the implementation of the approved Environmental Management Plan and the terms and conditions of this Permit and any other agreed policies.
- 2.5 Continue to keep in your employment Medical Personnel who will be responsible for administering clinical services to employees on site.
- 2.6 Ensure that all foods, raw and refrigerated, are stored in accordance with the World Health Organisation (WHO) International Food Standards (Codex Alimentarius) as outlined by Environmental Health Unit of the Ministry of Health.
- 2.7 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.
- 2.8 Prepare and maintain an employee and third-party contractors' log of distribution of Personal Protective Equipment, which should be available upon request to Officers of the Agency during an inspection.
- 2.9 Display signs indicating the symbol for the type of protective gear to be worn at appropriate locations through the Mine Site.
- 2.10 Regular training shall be provided for on-site personnel in operation of the waste disposal site, including waste load inspection, hazardous waste identification, and personal safety and protection, first aid, firefighting and emergency response. Training records should be kept on site and presented when requested by the Agency.
- 2.11 Prepare and maintain training files for all employees and third-party contractors. Records shall be made available upon the Agency's request.

3.0 MINING AND PROCESSING REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 Continue to operate the major processing components of the mining operation in accordance with the updated ESIA (July, 2021) that includes primary

crushing, grinding, classification cyclones, gravity circuits, thickener, cyanidation, elution, smelting and tailings-cyanide destruction.

- 3.2 Ensure there is **no use of mercury** in any part of the operations of the project as stated in the approved ESIA Report (May, 2010) and updated EISA Report (July, 2021). Any intention to use mercury, thereby representing a divergence of the project operations, shall only be conducted with the prior and express permission of the GPMC and the EPA.
- 3.3 Ensure the entire mining pit area is limited to a minimum distance of 10 metres from the dyke(s) constructed to protect the work areas from the Cuyuni River floodplain, as detailed in the updated ESIA report (July, 2021).
- 3.4 Raise an alarm upon notification of rise in level of the Cuyuni River being attained to initiate evacuation.
- 3.5 Ensure water, including groundwater flow and precipitation, accumulated in mine pits are collected within in-pit sumps and directed into the water management pond prior to being discharged into any waterway.
- 3.6 Continue to keep in your employment a drilling and blasting supervisor, who is certified and licensed by the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission. Blasting operations shall only be undertaken by qualified persons using the appropriate equipment and materials.
- 3.7 Ensure the use, storage, transport, handling, and general management of explosives are done in accordance with relevant laws and regulations including the Explosives Act (and any future amendments) and the requirements of the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, and the Guyana Police Force.
- 3.8 Ensure the appropriate blast design parameters are in place prior to the actual blasting. Minimize ground vibration by the utilisation of: **1.** appropriate delay intervals for charge ignition; **2.** appropriate pattern; **3.** orientation of blast holes; and **4.** confinement of the charge.
- 3.9 Continue to keep functional the bulk explosives plant/storage and or explosives magazine as described in the Final ESIA (May, 2010) and Updated ESIA Report (July, 2021). Ensure that this area is fenced and access is restricted.

4.0 DRAINAGE AND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Comply with the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000**, and conduct quarterly monitoring of the water quality parameters outlined below.

- 4.2 Adhere to the approved Water Quality Monitoring Plan in the Environmental Management Plan of the final ESIA Report (May, 2010) and Updated ESIA Report (July, 2021) for the Project.
- 4.3 Treated effluent from the permitted discharge points shall be in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards Interim *Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment*, US EPA *National Recommended Water Quality Criteria for Priority Toxic Pollutants*, World Bank Water Quality Standards (IFC) and the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC). The following maximum allowable limits should not be exceeded for the following parameters:
- i. pH 5.0 – 9.0; (GNBS Industrial Effluent Guidelines).
 - ii. Total Suspended Solids (TSS) <50mg/L;(GNBS Industrial Effluent Guidelines).
 - iii. Oil and Grease <10 mg/L; (IFC Mining Guidelines).
 - iv. Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) <150 mg/L;(IFC Mining Guidelines)
 - v. Temperature <40 °C; ;(GNBS Industrial Effluent Guidelines).
 - vi. Turbidity <50 mg/L; (Guyana Geology & Mines Commission).
 - vii. Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) <50 mg/L; (GNBS Industrial Effluent Guidelines).
 - viii. Ammonia <10 mg/L; (IFC General Guidelines).
 - ix. Phosphorous (P) <2 mg/L; (IFC General Guidelines).
 - x. Iron total (Fe) <2.0 mg/L; (IFC Mining Guidelines).
 - xi. Arsenic (As) <0.1 mg/L; (IFC Mining Guidelines).
 - xii. Zinc (Zn) <0.5 mg/L; (IFC Mining Guidelines).
 - xiii. Lead (Pb) <0.2 mg/L; (IFC Mining Guidelines).
 - xiv. Nickel (Ni) <0.5 mg/L; (IFC Mining Guidelines).
 - xv. Cadmium (Cd) <0.05 mg/L; (IFC Mining Guidelines).
 - xvi. Copper (Cu) <0.3 mg/L; and (IFC Mining Guidelines).
 - xvii. Chromium (CrO₄²⁻) <0.1 mg/L; (IFC Mining Guidelines).
- 4.4 Ensure discharges from the Mine Site do not exceed fifty (50) mg/l of Total Suspended Solids without dilution, at least 95 % of the time that the plant or unit is operating, to be calculated as a proportion of annual operating hours.

- 4.5 Submit monitoring results for groundwater and surface water sampling in accordance with the approved Environmental Monitoring Plan, July, 2021. Reports shall be submitted to the EPA no later than **two (2) months** after the reporting quarter.
- 4.6 Conduct fortnightly monitoring of water from discharge points of the **Tailings and Water Management Ponds**. Samples shall be collected at the approved sample locations identified in the approved Environmental Monitoring Plan July, 2021. These water monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Agency no later than **two (2) months** after the reporting quarter.
- 4.7 Ensure the following standards for cyanide discharge into the environment are adhered to:
- a) Free Cyanide - 0.1 mg/l
 - b) Total Cyanide – 1.0 mg/l
 - c) Weak acid dissociable – 0.5 mg/l
- 4.8 Engineer drainage systems to minimize disturbances to natural drainage patterns. Drainage systems should be capable of handling the probable maximum precipitation within the mines and ancillary facilities.
- 4.9 Ensure that surface and perimeter drains are cleared of debris on a regular basis to promote free flow of water in and around the mine site and auxiliary facilities. Ensure drains are adequately sloped and self-cleansing.
- 4.10 Monitor discharge from the cyanide destruct plant (i.e., tailings discharge) that is safe for fish as well as humans. Discharge from Tailings Management Area (TMA) cyanide ponds shall not exceed 0.5 mg/l WAD cyanide at the TMA discharge monitoring station.
- 4.11 Implement practical measures to prevent pollution of the Cuyuni River, all streams, and natural waterways found within the Mining Concession.
- 4.12 Ensure that the new Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) treat effluent and comply with the IFC effluent standards of the General EHS Guidelines (2007).
- 4.13 As feasible, all stormwater shall be directed to the tailings management area, freshwater pond, or mine water pond prior to the discharge to surface water bodies.
- 4.14 As feasible, maintain sediment control structures such as sediment traps and screens to prevent the inflow of sediments to surface water.

- 4.15 Maintain erosion control measures such as erosion control blankets, geotextile fabric, and seeding as indicated in the approved EMP of the ESIA.
- 4.16 Install diversionary structures/diversion of unimpacted surface water around mining and processing operations to maintain hydrological base flows in Cuyuni River Tributaries.
- 4.17 Collect flow data on nearby rivers (Cuyuni River), streams as part of the hydrological monitoring programme, to be undertaken during operation. The data shall be recorded and included in quarterly surface water monitoring report.

5.0 BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION

- 5.1 Adhere to the requirements of the **Wildlife Management and Conservation Act, 2016**.
- 5.2 Adhere to the Biodiversity Monitoring Plan in the approved Environmental Management Plan July, 2021 for the Project, for species protection and conservation in the event that threatened species are encountered.
- 5.3 Report all occurrences of illegal wildlife trapping and trading within your Mining Concession to the EPA and Guyana Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission.
- 5.4 Communicate to employees and third-party contractors through trainings, signage and other practicable means, that the capture, trading and/or removal of endangered and vulnerable wildlife species 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.
- 5.5 Maintain all water crossings (culvert or bridges) to enable the free movement of aquatic species.
- 5.6 Sample biodiversity at least once every two years, utilising, as far as possible, the same methodology used to acquire the ecological baseline in the ESIA Report (May, 2010) and Updated ESIA Report (July, 2021), to assess any alteration of species type and abundance. Reports shall be submitted to the Agency no later than **two (2) months** after the completion of studies.
- 5.7 Record observances of aquatic and terrestrial biodiversity and submit quarterly reports to the EPA. These reports shall be submitted **one (1) month** after the reporting quarter.

- 5.8 Ensure channels are lined with grass and/or riprap, where necessary to minimize erosion.

6.0 TAILINGS MANAGEMENT AREA

- 6.1 Adhere to the Tailing Pond Monitoring Plan in the approved Environmental Management Plan July, 2021 for the Project.

Ensure that the relevant personnel have an understanding of general tailings management, along with their respective roles and responsibilities, particularly in the role of visual indications of structural integrity.

- 6.2 Execute a consistent monitoring programme of continuous inspection of the physical conditions and maintenance of the tailings pond dam throughout the operational phase of the project.
- 6.3 Continue to maintain set maximum retention time for waste water in the tailings pond and sediment ponds, to allow for settling of suspended solids and natural degradation of possible contaminants.
- 6.4 Maintain instrumentation in the tailings and water management ponds embankment and their foundations, such as piezometers, settlement plates, inclinometers etc. to monitor their structural stability.
- 6.5 Ensure the tailings pond embankment maintains a minimum of one (1) meter of freeboard. Monitor and analyse the monitoring data from the piezometers within the embankment and signs if wetting or seepage on the embankment surface to maintain a phreatic surface within the embankment that is acceptable to the design engineer.
- 6.6 Maintain a minimum operating freeboard of one (1) metre in the tailings pond to avoid overtopping.
- 6.7 Conduct annual susceptibility analysis which will investigate the hydrological conditions of the tailings storage site and analyse its susceptibility to failure. The records/reports should be submitted as part of the Environmental Annual Report required in condition 17.2.

Reports must include but not be limited to the following:

- a) Issues in Foundation and stability conditions observed examples: undercutting of embankments, seepage/piping and Erosion;
- b) Availability and suitability of borrow materials;
- c) Flood assessment of the site;

- d) Tailing specific factors such as but not limited to pulp density, particle size distribution and acidity all of which can have implications on the structural stability of the tailing storage site.
 - e) Details on any maintenance carried out and monitoring conducted on area, noting any significant issues identified during the monitoring exercise.
- 6.8 Conduct geotechnical investigations on the hydrological and hydrogeological conditions of the tailing's storage site every three years. The records/reports shall be submitted to the Agency within two (2) weeks of completion.

7.0 SOIL AND LAND MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 Ensure all factors that may destabilize soils and induce mass movements are assessed using a standard procedure, before initiating major earthworks.
- 7.2 Develop and implement a Monitor Program to monitor areas of exposed soil during periods of heavy rainfall. If erosion/landslides are noted immediately cease operations and implement mitigation measures.
- 7.3 As far as practical, ensure that natural vegetative cover is maintained at all times. Re-vegetate areas from which vegetation was removed. Retain vegetation in the vicinity of steep slopes.
- 7.4 Take necessary precautions and implement measures as far as possible to avoid soil rutting, erosion, siltation and sedimentation during operation as indicated in the EMP.
- 7.5 Employ best management practices to avoid contamination of soil by oil, grease, heavy metals, chemicals such as cyanide, sodium meta-bi-sulphate, caustic soda, etc.

8.0 ROADS

- 8.1 Continue to maintain one access road to the Project Site from the Barama Road. This road should be maintained to the narrowest width and lowest vertical alignment possible allowing for safe travel and passing of the largest vehicles planned for travel on the road. Monitor frequently the accessibility of this road and ensure that transportation of the company trucks and vehicles does not encumber traffic on the Barama Road.
- 8.2 Continue to maintain access roads in such a manner to ensure good drainage, erosion control and dust management. The running surface of the roads should be crowned with a compacted layer and with good drainage on both sides to catch and direct water to the local drainage system.

- 8.3 Ensure that culverts are installed along new roadways at points of low elevation to maintain local drainage patterns. All water crossings (culverts or bridges) along roads should be sized to handle wet season flows.
- 8.4 Maintain adequate safety signs along roads informing users of dangerous bends, crossing of haul trucks, speed limits, etc.
- 8.5 Ensure sedimentation collections basins at the invert of culverts to prevent or minimise siltation of culverts.

9.0 AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 9.1 Comply with the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000, and conduct quarterly monitoring of the air quality parameters outlined below.
- 9.2 Adhere to the Air Quality and Dust Monitoring Plan in the approved Environmental Management Plan July, 2021 for the Project.
- 9.3 Utilise Best Available Control Technology to control/reduce air emissions into the environment from the operation.
- 9.4 Employ all practical measures along roads, and material stock piles, and other necessary areas to control and prevent fugitive dust impacts. Dust suppression methods such as watering should be used regularly.
- 9.5 Assess the emissions from the incinerator chimney flue (stack) **within three (3) months** of signing this Environmental Permit to determine compliance with the requisite standards tabled below. All emissions shall be analysed in keeping with the Clean Air Act Stationary Source Compliance Monitoring Strategy and the US EPA National Stack Testing Guidance.

Air Pollutant	Maximum Pollutant Level	Type of Monitoring	Frequency of Monitoring
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	1000mg/m ³	Stack	Annual
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)	5mg/m ³	Stack	Annual
Particulate Matter	100 mg/m ³	Stack	Annual
Sulphuric Acid or sulphuric trioxide	100 mg/m ³ as sulphur trioxide equivalent	Stack	Annual

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Nitric acid or oxides of nitrogen	350 mg/m ³	Stack	Annual
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The assessment shall be conducted by qualified personnel using calibrated equipment and US EPA approved methods.

- 9.6 Submit the result of the assessment to the EPA no later than **two (2) months** after completion of assessment.
- 9.7 Adhere to the Final Air Quality Technical Report Aurora Gold Mine Project that was submitted on January 08, 2020 for air emissions inventory and air dispersion modelling.
- 9.8 Maintain auxiliary ventilation system regularly to reduce fumes from blasting and diesel exhaust to a safe concentration to sustain acceptable working conditions and to replace the oxygen used up by the workers and diesel equipment.
- 9.9 Use low sulphur diesel where possible to reduce vehicle emissions of sulphur dioxide (SO₂) and particulate matter (PM).

10.0 NOISE QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 10.1 Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000, and comply with Noise Management Procedures as outlined in the final ESIA dated May, 2010 and updated ESIA July, 2021.
- 10.2 Operate all mechanical equipment in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. All mechanical equipment, vehicles, should be regularly maintained and operated at their optimal levels to minimize noise emissions.
- 10.3 Limit idling of equipment or vehicles, as far as practical, idling should be limited to five (5) minutes or less or equipment/ vehicles switched off when not in use.
- 10.4 Ensure that all sound-making devices such as generators, etc. are suitable, enclosed and constructed with materials of good insulation properties (e.g., hollow concrete blocks, insulation boards solid clay bricks, etc.) and are equipped with silencers or mufflers to reduce the noise level. Service all vehicles regularly to control any exhaust emissions and prevent nuisance or objectionable odours/fumes.
- 10.5 Comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards' (GNBS) *Guidelines for Noise Emission into the Environment*, not exceeding the limits at a distance of 15 metres (50 feet) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.

- Industrial Limits: 100 dB (Daytime Limits (06:00 h-18:00 h))
80B (Nighttime Limits (18:00 h- 06:00 h))
- 10.6 Noise monitoring shall be conducted at a distance of 15 m from the points identified in the in the approved Environmental Management Plan July, 2021.
- 11.0 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/WASTE MANAGEMENT**
- 11.1 Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection Hazardous Waste Management Regulations, 2000, and the stipulations within the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Act, No. 13 of 2000, the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Regulations, No. 8 of 2004, the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals (Amendment) Regulations, No. 8 of 2007.
- 11.2 The Environmental Protection Agency shall be notified at least **thirty (30) days** prior to the shipment of hazardous materials.
- 11.3 The following information shall be provided to the Agencies/Organizations outlined in condition 17.2:
- a) The type, hazardous class, and quantity of materials to be imported;
 - b) The Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for each hazardous material; and
 - c) The name and location of the Port/Wharf Facility that will facilitate storage of the materials imported. The Port/Wharf Facility receiving imported hazardous materials shall be authorized by the EPA.
- 11.4 The Hazardous Material Storage areas shall be clearly labelled, secured and well illuminated when not in use. The following warning signs shall be clearly posted:
- a) Danger- Chemical Storage Area “Authorized Personnel Only”
 - b) Read and follow all label directions
 - c) No Smoking
 - d) No Eating or Drinking
- 11.5 All flammable materials shall be stored away from ignition sources. ‘No Smoking’ signs shall be posted where these materials are handled and stored.
- 11.6 All hazardous waste shall be stored in a covered, bunded area. This area shall include the following:
- a) Signage- “Hazardous Waste Storage Area”;
 - b) Low traffic;
 - c) No floor drains; and
 - d) Secondary containment capable of containing 110% of the largest volume therein.

- 11.7 Hazardous materials shall be stored in accordance with the manufacturer's directions or Safety Data Sheet (SDS) instructions.
- 11.8 Safety Data Sheets for all hazardous materials shall be readily available and easily accessible at all times at the Facility.
- 11.9 Hazardous materials shall be stored away from non-hazardous materials.
- 11.10 All hazardous materials shall be stored according to the following compatibility:
- a) Acids separate from Caustics
 - b) Acids separate from Bases
 - c) Acids separate from Flammables
 - d) Bases separate from Flammables,
 - e) Oxidizers separate from Compressed Flammable Gases
 - f) Corrosives separate from Flammables
 - g) Oxides separate from all other chemicals
 - h) Organic reactive separate from inorganic reactive (metals)
- 11.11 Hazardous material containers shall be clearly labelled in accordance with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling. The following must be evident:
- a) Signal Word
 - b) GHS Symbols- (Hazard Pictograms)
 - c) Manufacturer Information
 - d) Precautionary Statements/ First Aid
 - e) Hazard Statements
 - f) Product Name or Identifiers
- 11.12 Emergency spill clean-up kits shall be maintained on site 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 hazardous storage Facility.
- 11.13 A fully stocked first- aid kit shall be readily available at the hazardous storage facility.
- 11.14 Material storage containers shall be inspected weekly for signs of leakage or corrosion and damaged containers must be replaced immediately. Inspection reports must be maintained and signed by the appropriately qualified inspecting officer and his/her supervisor.
- 11.15 Chemicals materials stored in ton bags and totes shall:

- a) Be protected from UV rays;
 - b) Be covered to prevent exposure to dirt, dust, and moisture; and
 - c) Not hang over the side of pallets used for stacking.
- 11.16 Hazardous materials stored within drums shall:
- a) Be placed within bunded storage to ensure any leaks or spills are immediately contained;
 - b) Be clearly marked with their contents, and any appropriate warning symbols;
 - c) Have scheduled inspection to detect rust, leaks or other damage; and
 - d) Remain covered to protect the integrity of your chemicals.
- 11.17 Hazardous materials shall be tightly sealed or contained within enclosed structures with appropriate height berm walls on an impermeable base,
- 11.18 Hazardous materials shall not be stored on damaged, or inadequately secured racking or on damaged pallets.
- 11.19 Hazardous materials shall not be stored in passageways including forklift truck routes, other vehicle routes and pedestrian walkways on site.
- 11.20 Hazardous material storage area roof shall provide adequate rain protection and ventilation for heat and smoke in the event of fire.
- 11.21 Hazardous material storage areas shall possess ventilation in accordance with one of the following:
- a) Gravity ventilation to the outside with a capacity of one cubic foot per minute per square foot or floor space; and
 - b) Mechanical ventilation with on/ off switches at points of ingress that are capable of exhausting to the outside;
- 11.22 Fork lifts utilized to lift and transport packaged hazardous materials shall have rated capacity to support the full weight of packages.
- 11.23 Fork lift tines used for lifting packaged dry chemicals shall be free of sharp edges and protrusions.
- 11.24 Establish and maintain a register of hazardous materials or chemicals used or generated by your operation. Submit to the Agency twice yearly (June and December) a report relating to the activities for the previous six months including:
- a) the name, location and type of operation;

- b) types and quantities (in metric units) of hazardous waste generated;
- c) manner of storage, use, any applied treatment standards/methods and disposal of these substances;
- d) data concerning off-site shipments of waste, i.e., local disposal facility utilised,
- e) country to which hazardous waste is shipped, purpose of shipment and amount of waste shipped;
- f) a summary of any accidents that may have occurred and any action taken;
- g) any waste minimization efforts undertaken by your facility for hazardous material/waste; and
- g) any other matter the Agency may require.

The Agency considers all materials listed in Schedule I and II of the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Wastes Management) Regulations, 2000, to be hazardous.

- 11.25 Elevate all waste oil/ chemical tanks and containers so that leaks are easily identifiable.
- 11.26 All hazardous waste containers shall be labelled with the following:
- a) The words "Hazardous Waste"
 - b) The type of waste
 - c) Beginning accumulation date- Date when the container was first placed in the Hazardous Waste Storage Area. Should the hazardous waste container be reused, the date hazardous waste was first placed in the container shall be recorded on the container.
- 11.27 Ensure all potential spills of fuel, oil, or other hazardous materials are prevented or cleaned up in accordance with the Spill Contingency Plan in the approved EMP of the final ESIA report.
- 11.28 Any chemical spills occurring during handling and loading of hazardous materials, shall be immediately cleaned and disposed as guided by the respective Safety Data Sheet, or method approved by the EPA.
- 11.29 All employees involved in the management of hazardous materials shall be trained on Hazardous Material Communication and Emergency Preparedness Response.
- 11.30 a) Collect and store waste oils and used batteries, and any other hazardous waste on site, until ready for disposal in a manner approved by the EPA.
- b) Refrain from draining fuel/lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways.

- 11.31 Equip all vehicles and equipment with leak/spill kits.
- 11.32 Apply the **International Cyanide Management Code for the Manufacture, Transport and Use of Cyanide in the Production of Gold** to the use of cyanide in its processes.
- 11.33 Install devices on the cyanide storage tanks to prevent overtopping, such as an automatic level indicator, high-level alarm, or integrated tanker valve-shutdown device. Spill prevention or containment measures such as secondary containment ditches, differential pressure sensing, with alarms and/or automatic shutoff systems shall also be provided for pipelines transporting cyanide process solutions.
- 11.34 Accidental release of sodium cyanide shall be reported to the Agency in accordance with **condition 17.2**.
- 11.35 Use ISO certified containers for solid cyanide whereby mixing can be conducted in the tanks to ensure workers safety. Mixing with cyanide briquettes in 1 ton bags stored in boxes will be used only in supply emergencies (i.e., when supply is interrupted).
- 11.36 Design and construct unloading storage facilities for liquid and solid cyanide away from people, acids, strong oxidizers, explosives and waterways. The facility should be constructed of an impervious base which is consistent with sound and accepted engineering practices.
- 11.37 Ensure storage facilities for cyanide are equipped with a spill containment capacity at least equal to 110 % of the largest storage tank in the containment area.
- 11.38 Purchase cyanide in solid briquette form and transport same in dedicated stainless steel ISO delivery/mixing tanks, and delivered by a transport certified by the International Cyanide Management Institute (ICMI).
- 11.39 Ensure the design and operation of the tailings detoxification circuit to achieve nominal 50 mg/L weak acid dissociable cyanide in the tailings pipeline and as-deposited tailings.
- 11.40 Not undertake any direct delivery of cyanide to the Aurora Site via the Cuyuni River using boats or barges.
- 11.41 Restrict the ferry traversing the Tapir Crossing to transportation of only one ISO delivery/mixing tank at a time.

12.0 FUEL HANDLING AND STORAGE

- 12.1 Adopt and comply with the National Standard “Guidance for the Design, Construction, Modification, and Maintenance of Petrol Filling Stations” and any forthcoming code of practice/guidelines pertaining to the operation of fuel storage.
- 12.2 Maintain the Operation and Maintenance Manual for the Fuel Storage Facility. The Manual shall address all aspects of the on-going operation, including the required maintenance and inspection schedule, loss monitoring/ investigation procedures, emergency response and requirements for review of the Manual.
- 12.3 Fuel shall at all times be stored above-ground, in a cool, dry place and away from ignition sources. ‘No Smoking’ signs shall be posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 12.4 Guyana Fire Service Approval shall be obtained annually and shall be submitted as a component of the Environmental Annual Report.
- 12.5 The Fuel Storage Facility shall maintain fire prevention and control equipment in accordance with the Guyana Fire Service Approval. This may include a smoke detection and alarm system, fire extinguishers, fire hydrants or sprinkler systems as appropriate.
- 12.6 Maintain an impervious secondary containment wall around fuel storage tanks, creating a temporary holding area in the event of accidental spillage. The containment wall for areas with multiple tanks shall have the capacity to provide at least 110% containment of the largest tank.
- 12.7 Existing secondary containment around the fuel tanks shall be inspected monthly for cracks and breakage to ensure they are liquid tight to withstand hydrostatic pressure of any contained liquid when full. A summarized inspection report shall be submitted to the Agency as a component of the Annual Environmental Report, **condition 17.2**.
- 12.8 All secondary containment shall remain sealed and all piping must enter or exit the containment over the wall. Secondary containment shall provide total containment, and no part of the tank infrastructure (e.g., dispenser, filling hoses and valves) shall protrude outside the containment.
- 12.9 All fuel storage tanks shall be tested by competent persons to verify their integrity once every five years. All tests should be documented including a clear indication of the scope, type and results of the tests.

- 12.10 Protection measures for fuel storage tanks such as painting and coating shall be maintained to minimize corrosion of fuel tanks.
- 12.11 Maintenance and/ or repair of fittings, pipes and hoses shall be conducted monthly and in accordance to manufacturer's specifications. A summarized inspection report shall be compiled and submitted to the Agency as part of the Annual Environmental Report required in **condition 17.2**.
- 12.12 Overfill protection shall be installed and maintained on all fuel tanks. This may include an automatic shut off device or an audible or visible overfill alarm.
- 12.13 The safe fill level shall be clearly identified on the gauge and set at 90% to prevent overfilling. In the event of overfilling, all discharges shall be released and contained in the containment bund.
- 12.14 Leak detection systems shall be installed on all fuel tanks. At least two (2) of the following measures should be implemented:
- (a) Overflow alarms on tanks;
 - (b) Gauging system;
 - (c) Dipstick measurements;
 - (d) Sensors on walls of tanks; or
 - (e) Electric shut down buttons.
- 12.15 The Best Available Technology/ Technique (BAT) shall be employed to capture fuel lost during the unloading of fuel to storage tanks and refueling of equipment.
- 12.16 Secondary containment, drip trays or other overflow and drip containment measures shall be installed and maintained at connection points or other possible overflow points.
- 12.17 Maintain the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for fuel transfer operations including the checklist of measures to follow during filling operations. A copy of any revisions to this SOP shall be submitted to the EPA as a component of the Annual Environmental Report required in **condition 17.2**.
- 13.0 MANAGEMENT OF WASTE DISPOSAL SITE/WASTE MANAGEMENT**
- 13.1 Maintain good house-keeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of the surroundings at all times.
- 13.2 Promote proper solid waste management and disposal practices at your facility. Waste shall not be disposed in or near waterways, nor shall waste be burnt near

- dwelling places or vegetated areas. Reduction and reuse of waste shall be promoted.
- 13.3 Maintain a waste disposal site, which shall be lined to the floor with earthen or geotextile material to prevent leaching to ground water.
 - 13.4 Hazardous wastes inclusive of toxic, corrosive, flammable, volatile, electronic waste and infectious wastes are strictly prohibited from the waste disposal site.
 - 13.5 Organic waste (**with the exception of food leftovers**) shall not be disposed of in the waste disposal site. Undertake composting of, organic waste and reuse organic materials as fertilizer for re-vegetation of reclaimed areas.
 - 13.6 Ensure personnel trained in the recognition of hazardous and other unacceptable wastes, visually inspect all incoming waste loads to verify that no wastes other than those allowed by this permit are disposed of at the solid waste disposal site.
 - 13.7 The Permit Holder shall conduct the random waste inspection at the working face of the disposal site. The details of each inspection shall be recorded.
 - 13.8 Solid waste and cover material shall be compacted monthly to the smallest practicable volume, to conserve on disposal capacity, and to minimize moisture infiltration and settlement.
 - 13.9 Cover material shall be applied no less than **monthly** over the entire working face or more often if necessary to minimize fire hazards, infiltration of precipitation, odour, blowing of litter and fugitive dust. Sources of cover material shall be accessible on all operating days. The thickness of the compacted cover shall be sufficient, with a minimum of 6 inches, so that waste material does not protrude nor becomes visible.
 - 13.10 Final cover shall be applied on each area as it is completed; or if the area is to remain idle for over one (1) year. The thickness of the compacted final cover shall not be less than 2 feet. Final cover shall be vegetated to minimize against erosion.
 - 13.11 Solid waste handling equipment must be capable of spreading the solid waste in layers no more than two (2) feet thick, and must be able to compact the spread solid wastes to the smallest practicable volume. Substitute equipment shall be available to provide uninterrupted service during routine equipment maintenance periods, or equipment breakdowns.
 - 13.12 Intentional burning of waste is strictly prohibited. All accidental fires shall be extinguished immediately.

- 13.13 Waste transported to the disposal site shall be adequately secured to prevent spilling of litter and dust onto the road. Wastes that are easily moved by wind shall be controlled as necessary to prevent their becoming airborne and scattered.
- 13.14 On-site vegetation shall be cleared only as necessary. Natural windbreaks such as green belts, shall be maintained where they will improve the appearance and operation of the disposal site.
- 13.15 Maintain records and monitoring data, to be provided as required to the EPA. At a minimum, the following records shall be maintained:
- 13.16 The number of loads of waste and the weights and/or volume or estimates of weights and/or volume of waste disposed at the waste disposal site.
- 13.17 Description of the type of solid waste materials disposed, identified by source of materials.
- 13.18 Records of all inspections conducted by the Permit Holder, results of such inspections and any corrective actions taken.
- 13.19 These records shall be maintained daily where applicable, summarized monthly, and a synopsis of such be submitted as a component of the Annual Environmental Report. All records shall be signed and dated by the person responsible for completing them.
- 13.20 Operate the Waste Disposal Site, so that unauthorized entry to the facility is restricted. The site shall be accessible only when operating personnel are on duty, except in emergency situations.
- 13.21 Place the final cover on the waste disposal site prior to closure. The GPS coordinates of this area shall be recorded. Visible signs shall be erected identifying the boundaries of the waste disposal site.
- 13.22 Maintain a septic system on site at all times. The septic tank shall not be located within 1.5 m of a building or property boundary and should be accessible for cleaning and de-sludging. Any modification to the septic tanks 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.
- 13.23 Maintain an adequate number of portable toilets on site to meet the needs of employees and contractors and maintain the environs both internally and externally in a hygienic manner.

Portable toilet should be:

- a) Placed on a mound to prevent surface water from entering;
- b) Positioned at least one hundred (100) metres away from surface water, creeks, wells or springs;
- c) Positioned at least four (4) metres away from any dwelling (such as camps, residential areas and any sleeping and living quarters, etc.);
- d) Easily accessed during bad weather and will not cause odour; and
- e) Emptied on a regular basis.

13.24 Construct waste disposal sites above the highest ground water table. Disposal sites should be lined with earthen or getoextile material to prevent leachate from contaminating ground water.

13.25 Where possible and practical, compost organic matter and reuse organic materials as fertilizer for re-vegetation of reclaimed areas.

14.0 OPERATION OF INCINERATOR

14.1 Ensure that the Standard Operating Procedure and the Operator's manual for the incinerator is followed at all times, from start-up and shut-down procedures, normal operation, and troubleshooting and maintenance procedures.

14.2 Maintain copies of all incinerator record sheets. Record the total amounts of various waste streams incinerated annually and include samples of them in the **Annual Environmental Report**.

14.3 Maintenance of the incinerator shall be conducted by a qualified service technician in accordance with the General Maintenance and Service Section of the Operation and Maintenance Manual. Required Personal protective Equipment (PPE) shall be worn during maintenance activities, especially the waste oil burner.

14.4 Ensure the incinerator is operated only by trained personnel, who shall always be present during incineration of waste. Conduct safety meetings with ALL staff members involved in the operation and maintenance of the incinerator as a means of involving and consulting employees in all Health, Safety and Environmental related matters.

14.5 Ensure waste is separated before incineration to allow for maximum burn. **DO NOT** burn toxic waste such as radioactive waste, mercury thermometers, hazardous chemicals, plastics, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and waste with traces of heavy metal and chlorine.

14.6 Notify the Agency of any intention to use the incinerator to burn any other hazardous waste not permitted by this Environmental Authorisation.

- 14.7 Conduct visual observations of the emissions from the chimney flue (stack) during operation. Emissions shall not exceed No. 2 on the Ringelmann Smoke Chart. Immediately respond to emissions that exceed No.2 in the Ringelmann Smoke Chart with corrective action to achieve compliance with the requisite standard.
- 14.8 Extend the chimney flue (stack) at least three (3) feet above the highest point of the housing structure.
- 14.9 Store, manage and dispose of ashes generated from incineration in an environmentally sound manner.

15.0 WASTE ROCK STOCKPILE

- 15.1 Undertake all necessary work to control acid mine drainage from the mining areas.
- 15.2 As far as possible reuse non-acid-generating (NAG) waste rock in construction activities.
- 15.3 Conduct continuous geo-chemical characterization of waste rock after each blast round in order to determine the potential for the rock to be potentially acid generating (PAG) or metal leaching.
- 15.4 Records of geo-chemical characterization of waste rock shall be maintained and provided to the Agency upon request.
- 15.5 Store potentially acid generating (PAG) materials in a temporary stockpile area that is lined and covered stockpile area. The pile shall be covered with an 80-mil HDPE geo-membrane so as to prevent any introduction of surface water onto the pile.
- 15.6 Ensure that spoil piles are surrounded by toe drains and perimeter berms to manage discharges of sediment.

16.0 PROGRESSIVE RECLAMATION AND CLOSURE

- 16.1 Adhere to the Conceptual Closure Plan which will be updated every 2-3 years. Updated Conceptual Closure Plan shall be submitted to the EPA **one (1)** week after completion.
- 16.2 Undertake progressive reclamation of the mine which shall include re-vegetation and recontouring to blend naturally into the environment.

- 16.3 Segregate topsoil, organic material, and overburden, and stockpile separately for re-use material during progressive reclamation.
- 16.4 When possible, backfill the mine pits and slopes with waste materials.
- 16.5 When possible, restore all waterways temporarily diverted during mining operations to their original channels.
- 16.6 Ensure borrow pits from which materials are sourced for the construction of roads and for other infrastructure works are re-contoured to conform to the natural topography of the area.

17.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 17.1 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by employees and all other third parties under your direction.
- 17.2 Submit Annual Environmental Reports to the EPA on or before **March 31** of every year of environmental management activities; status of the project, progress of the implementation of the EMP, monitoring activities, as well as compliance with the conditions of this Permit.
- 17.3 Maintain and submit to the Agency annual 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).
- 17.4 Adhere to the Monitoring Plan including *inter alia* to monitor Spoil Pile, Water, Tailings Pond, Hazardous Material and Reclamation as detailed in the final ESIA report May, 2010 and Updated ESIA July, 2021.
- 17.5 Submit quarterly results to the EPA for groundwater, surface water and terrestrial monitoring within **one (1) month** of the end of the quarter. Water sampling points and parameters tested should conform to the Monitoring Plan within the approved ESIA.
- 17.6 The Permit holder shall ensure that the Agency has “real time” remote access to the available environmental monitoring data from AGM Inc. (Zi Jin Mining Group Co. Ltd) operation.
- 17.7 Develop a monitoring plan based on the results of the emissions inventory and air quality modeling, and submit same to the EPA within two (2) weeks of completion.
- 17.8 Implement a regular inspection/monitoring programme for the inspection of the physical conditions of the dyke and seepage monitoring.

- 17.9 Submit revised versions of the EMP and Monitoring Protocol as requested by the EPA.
- 17.10 Submit to the EPA, within the first quarter of each calendar year, the Annual Mine Plan.
- 17.11 Submit to the Agency, project controls for managing hazards associated with associated with mixing cyanide in 1 ton bags, one (1) month after issuance of the Environmental Permit (Renewed).
- 17.12 Keep all records of environmental monitoring, malfunctions, pollution of the environment, and any failure to comply with requirements as stated in this Permit in an acceptable format for a period of five (5) years, which should be made available to the EPA upon request.
- 17.13 Implement the Project's Preventative Maintenance (PM) and field inspection programme for the operation of the process plant.
- 17.14 Ensure the reports and records of monitoring include the following:
- a) The names of the individuals and designations, who conducted sampling, prepared and compiled the reports;
 - b) The date, place/location, time, weather conditions, techniques and methods used in sampling;
 - c) The date the measurements were compiled or analysed and the names of the individuals who compiled the information;
 - d) Observations, readings, calculations, benchmarks, bench data, the results of analyses;
 - e) Limitations of the sampling process and all other occurrence at the time of study, which may affect the results;
 - f) Photographs, monitoring wells and sites; and
 - g) 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.
- 17.15 In the event that drilling of an onsite well is pursued, obtain approval from the Hydrometreological Service, prior to such activity.
- 17.16 Within twenty-four (24) hours notify the EPA of any environmental emergencies, for example mine collapse, fires, an accidental release of fuel or oil in excess of 50 gallons, an unplanned release of reagents in excess of 100 gallons, any unplanned release of cyanide and any accidental release of contaminants or incidence of pollution that creates an impact to the environment not previously contemplated in the updated ESIA. 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.

- 17.17 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 of Guyana.
- 17.18 Inform the National Trust and Walter Roth Museum and the Ministry of Culture if any artifacts of archaeological and anthropological significance are unearthed during operations.
- 17.19 Foster good corporate relations involving the Regional Council and other stakeholders by holding regular community and agency meetings, where general information can be shared and major concerns or complaints resolved.
- 17.20 Report all occurrences of illegal wildlife trapping and trading to the EPA and Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission Authority.
- 17.21 Be responsible for payment for all environmental audits and compliance monitoring associated with this Permit.
- 17.22 Inform the Agency prior to or within **30 days** of any change of name or ownership of the operation.
- 17.23 Develop and maintain an Operations and Maintenance Manual that includes thresholds for the piezometers and inspections to identify wet spots or seepage on the exterior slope of the embankments with associated remedial action based on the height of the phreatic surface size of the wetted slope and/or seepage rate. The Operation and Maintenance Manual should be submitted to the Agency one (1) week after finalization.
- 17.24 Notify the Agency within **21 days** in event of death, bankruptcy, liquidation or receivership of the Permit Holder or if the Company becomes a party to an amalgamation.
- 17.25 Conform to all terms and conditions under which this Permit is granted and be liable for any loss or damage which arises from the project as a result of the Permit Holder's activities or breach of any term or condition of this Permit.
- 17.26 Report to the Agency any non-compliance with the Environmental Permit (Renewed):
 - a) Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the environmental authorisation becomes aware of the non-compliance, the

anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.

- b) 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, the anticipated impacts on the environment, and anticipated time during which it is expected to continue if not remedied.
- c) 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.

18.0 FINANCIAL ASSURANCE AND LIABILITY FOR POLLUTION DAMAGE

- 18.1 The Permit Holder is liable for all costs associated with clean up, restoration and compensation for any damages caused by any discharge of any contaminant, including the cost of all investigations into pollution incidents or discharge of contaminants, conducted at the instance of Agency.
- 18.2 The Permit Holder, his Servants and/or Agents shall be liable for any adverse effects and environmental damage caused as a result of the project herein defined.
- 18.3 The Permit Holder, His Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractors 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.
- 18.4 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any negligence, gross negligence or wilful misconduct caused by the Permit Holder, to the environment, biodiversity, protected species and natural habitat with respect to any release or discharge, spill, contaminant fluids, oil or lubricants from fuel storage at any facilities permitted under this project.
- 18.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable for environmental damage due to pollution from its activities within Guyana, its territorial waters, contiguous zones, continental margins continental shelf, and Exclusive Economic Zone.
- 18.6 The Permit Holder shall obtain Environmental Liability Insurance in relation to the activities governed by this Environmental Permit in such amounts as is

customary internationally for gold mining and gold processing operations **within three (3) months** of signing this Environmental Permit.

18.7 The Permit Holder shall submit to the Agency:

- a. the Environmental Liability Insurance Policy required under Condition 18.6 in both a printed and electronic copy, **within three (3) months** of signing this Environmental Permit;
- b. a summary of the Environmental Liability Insurance Policy detailing the insurer, the type of insurance, the amount of coverage provided by each policy, key terms of the insurances policies, what types of environmental damage the policies cover, what types of environmental damage the policies do not cover, and the duration of the Policy;
- c. evidence that the insurer is authorized to provide the Insurance for risks in Guyana;
- d. evidence of the Insurer's credit rating; and
- e. evidence that the Insurer has sufficient financial strength for the amount of the potential liability.

18.8 Notwithstanding Condition 18.6, the Agency may require such further amounts, types and coverage of Insurance as is customary internationally for gold mining and gold processing operations or required by applicable law.

18.9 Condition 18.6 shall not be interpreted to mean that the Permit Holder, its Parent Company, Servants and/or Agents will not be liable to any other existing or forthcoming applicable laws, rules and regulations related to Financial Assurance.

18.10 This Permit is issued subject to the fulfilment of the obligations outlined in Condition 18.6 above. Failure to fulfil such obligations or commitments is in breach of this Permit and can result in its cancellation.

19.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

19.1 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, 1996, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000.

19.2 The EPA reserves the right to review/ amend the conditions and fees attached to this Permit (Renewed) in consideration of any changes in fee structure as determined by the Agency for projects of this nature.

19.3 The Permit Holder 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.

- 19.4 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's lack of due care and diligence.
- 19.5 Shall 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 EP Act Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 19.6 The EPA shall have the right to or suspend this Permit (Renewed) for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 19.7 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is not the final consent; all relevant permissions shall be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.
- 19.8 Please ensure all other regulatory authorisations are obtained.
- 19.9 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 Agency may issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice Order to immediately cease the offending activity. S. 27 EP Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 19.10 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit (Renewed) shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to penalties prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, 1996, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000, including civil penalties and injunctive relief.
- 19.11 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is valid for the period stipulated herein (**February, 2023 to January, 2028**).
- 19.12 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until **January 31, 2028**, unless otherwise suspended or revoked in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, No. 11 of 1996, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000.
- 19.13 This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed Form *Application Form for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation* to the Agency at least six months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **July 31, 2027**.

- 19.14 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 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.
- 19.15 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, 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.

Environmental Permit (Renewed) - Ref. No. 20090114-GGIOO
(Issued under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000)

Signed by
Agency



on behalf of the Environmental Protection

Date: 30.5.2023

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

NAME:	JOSH XAVIER
DESIGNATION:	ENVIRONMENT OFFICER
SIGNATURE:	<i>JXavier</i>
DATE:	21/06/2023

