



**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 :	20111012-CS000
Fee :	Small (C1) - US\$100 (5 years), i.e. US\$500 per year
Fees Paid:	May 2019 to April 2024
Addresses:	Cecil Skeete 876, Bachelor's Adventure Public Road, East Coast Demerara.
Activity:	Operation of a Gas Station



Cecil Skeete operating as Smile Gas Station & Mini Mart, hereinafter referred to as the "Permit Holder", is hereby authorised in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000, to operate a Service Station located at 876, Bachelor's Adventure Public Road, East Coast Demerara hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Application submitted May 28, 2018, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein and any existing or forthcoming regulations made under the said Environmental Protection Act and/or any other applicable laws, best practices, Guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

This is a Renewal of the Operation Permit, Reference # 20111012-CS000, issued on July 16, 2013, which expired on June 16, 2018. This Operation Permit-Renewed is issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

Terms and Conditions for Operation to be adhered to by Permit Holder

1.0 OPERATION

Notify the Agency in writing and obtain its approval for **ANY** proposed changes in the Gas Station operation **at least 14 days before making the change**. The notification shall contain a **description of the proposed change in 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

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change. In this condition '**change in operation**' means a change in the nature or functioning, or an extension, of the installation, which may have consequences for the environment, including, but not limited to, the following:

- i. Changes in construction, structure, or layout of the facility.
 - ii. Installation of new and/or changes to equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility or operation.
 - iii. Any technology used or installed at the facility from which effluent may be discharged.
- 1.1 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 the Service Stations.
 - 1.2 Maintain a sump below the fuel dispensers to capture any spillage that may occur.
 - 1.3 Ensure that pipe entries under the pump sumps are sealed to prevent fuel leakage into ground and surface water.
 - 1.4 Route pipelines from tanks to offset filling points, dispensing equipment and vent pipes below the ground surface. Pipelines should not be located under buildings. Ensure free access is maintained to the pipeline system for easy maintenance.
 - 1.5 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 should have the capacity to contain at least 110% of the volume of the largest tank. The containment wall for areas with solitary tanks should have the capacity to contain 110% of the volume of such tanks.
 - 1.6 Install leak detection mechanisms. At least two (2) of the following measures should be taken into consideration:
 - Overflow alarms on tanks;
 - Dip stick method;
 - Gauging system;
 - Sensors on walls of tank; and
 - Electric shut down buttons.
 - 1.7 Ensure that control measures are in place to prevent corrosion of underground steel tanks and pipe work.

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2.0 WATER QUALITY

- 2.1 Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations 2000.
- 2.2 Install and maintain oil-water separator(s) at the final discharge point of drains influenced by the fuel tank containment areas or refueling areas through which all effluent must pass before final discharge.
- 2.3 Discharges from the fuel bund(s) should flow through the oil-water separator(s) and be in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Interim Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment*. The following are the allowable limits for the Service Station and should not be exceeded:
- pH 5.0-9.0;
 - Temperature < 40 °C;
 - Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 100 mg/L;
 - Oil and Grease < 10 mg/L;
 - Total Dissolved Solid (TDS) < 40 mg/L;
 - Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) < 250mg/L;
 - Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) < 50mg/L.
- 2.4 Monitor the parameters listed in condition 2.3 on an annual basis at the point of discharge from the oil water separator and submit the results to the Agency as a component of the Annual Report required in condition 7.7. Samples should be obtained when the Service Station is fully operational.
- 2.5 Establish a maintenance schedule for the bund walls to ensure that they are functioning effectively.
- 2.6 Take all necessary precautionary measures during the transfer, use, and handling of fuel onsite to prevent spillage.
- 2.7 Avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils and other petroleum products. Store all oils, fuel and chemicals in a designated area, away from watercourses.
- 2.8 Conduct refueling on an impervious base or implement the use of drip pans to prevent fuel contamination of soil/water.
- 2.9 Construct and maintain drainage systems capable of handling the probable maximum precipitation storm event.
- 2.10 Maintain an interceptor drain, which must be adequately sloped to collect storm flow.

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- 2.11 Ensure that an emergency spill cleanup kit is maintained on site for response to potential spills. Kits should contain absorbent materials, drain seals and other appropriate tools for clean up. Oil spills should be cleaned up by the best practicable means, to prevent runoff into the waterways.
- 2.12 Refrain from draining fuel/lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways.
- 2.13 Store and dispose recovered oil from the oil-water separator as stated in condition 5.4.

3.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Adhere to the provisions of the the Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations 200, and Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000.
- 3.2 Comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment*. Sound levels from noise-making devices should not exceed the limits below, at a distance of 15 metres (50 ft) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.

Commercial Limits: **80 dB** [Day-time (06:00 h -18:00 h)]

65 dB [Night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h)]

- 3.4 Ensure all significant noise-producing equipment, e.g. generators are equipped with appropriate silencers or mufflers and/or are enclosed in suitable acoustic enclosures where necessary to reduce noise levels impacting the surrounding environment to achieve compliance with GNBS requirement.
- 3.5 Ensure that the exhaust stacks of the generator are at least 2 meters above the generator house or the tallest building nearby, to minimise adverse fumes/soot impact to the mitigations area.
- 3.6 Conduct scheduled maintenance of generator(s), pump(s), and machines/equipment on a regular basis to avoid inefficiencies and noxious emissions.
- 3.7 Handle and store liquid fuel in such a manner so as to prevent the emission of offensive odours to the air outside the property boundary.
- 3.8 Monitor any malfunction or breakdown leading to abnormal emissions promptly and adjust process operations until normal operations can be restored.
- 3.9 Ensure visual and odorous assessments of emissions are made frequently during the working day. Remedial action must be taken immediately in the case of abnormal emissions.

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4.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 In accordance with the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013**, promote good sanitation and solid waste disposal practices on site; covered garbage receptacles must be placed at strategic locations at the facility. Waste must be collected and disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility.
- 4.2 Maintain a septic system on site at all times. The septic tank should 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.
- 4.3 Maintain good housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of your surroundings at all times.
- 4.4 Maintain a good drainage system around the facility. The drainage system should be cleaned regularly and kept free of waste and vegetation.

5.0 FUEL, WASTE OIL AND HAZARDOUS WASTE / MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Adhere to the provisions Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000.
- 5.2 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 (please see attached form). The report shall include:
 - a) the name, location and type of facility;
 - 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, country to which hazardous waste is shipped, purpose of shipment and amount of waste shipped;
 - e) a summary of any accidents that may have occurred and any action taken;
 - f) any waste minimisation 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 Schedules I and II of the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Wastes Management) Regulations, 2000, to be hazardous. (Please see attached list).

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- 5.3 In the event that waste oil (recovered from oil-water separator or from servicing of generators) is stored on site, it should be stored in a covered, bunded area to minimise adverse impacts to the environment in the event of spillage. The bunded area must be labeled and be able to provide containment for the maximum volume of waste oil on site.
- 5.4 Dispose of all waste oil in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency's Guidelines, 2011 for the 'Removal, Treatment and Disposal of Oily Sludge' (attached) or reuse waste oil as lubricant for chainsaw or other equipment\machinery.
- 5.5 Store all fuel away from ignition sources and have '**No Smoking**' signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 5.6 Ensure that oil/fuel contaminated absorbent materials are appropriately stored and disposed of by double-wrapping them in heavy duty garbage bags and disposing of them at an approved waste disposal facility. Hazardous contaminated absorbent pads can be disposed via an authorised Hazardous Waste Disposal company.
- 5.7 Refrain from draining fuel or lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways. Submit a Clean-up Plan detailing the location of all materials stored on site and Notification and Clean-up Plans for each site of operation in the event of a spill. This Clean-up Plan must be updated annually.
- 5.8 Provide adequate fire protection measures such as maintaining and placing firefighting equipment such as fire extinguisher, sand bucket, at a visible location on site, in accordance with guidelines established by the Guyana Fire Service.
- 5.8 Submit to the Agency within **three (3) month** of receipt of the Permit, an Emergency Preparedness Plan for approval. This Plan must be communicated to staff and contractor of the facility and shall include:
- i. Accident Prevention Procedures;
 - ii. First Person Response;
 - iii. Notification Procedures;
 - iv. Location of clean-up equipment;
 - v. An analysis of potential accidents and response, and;
 - vi. Materials safety data sheet for all materials which could be spilled.
- 5.9 Submit to the Agency a Notification and Clean-up Plan for the facility in the event of a spill.

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY RESPONSES

- 6.1 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency within **twenty four (24) hours** of

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the occurrence of any environmental emergencies.

- 6.2 Provide adequate fire protection measures such as maintaining and placing firefighting equipment such as fire extinguisher, sand bucket, at a visible location on site, in accordance with guidelines established by the Guyana Fire Service.
- 6.3 Maintain a supply of oil-absorbent materials such as absorbent pads, sand, etc., at the site for the clean-up of spills.
- 6.4 Treat and contain spills of even a minor nature with absorbent materials.
- 6.5 Ensure that appropriate clean-up equipment such as spill trays, oil spill clean-up recover pump, oil spill dispersant spray system or sorbent pads are readily accessible during refueling exercises and/accidental release of fuel.

7.0 COMPLIANCE, MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 7.1 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency within **twenty four (24) hours** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies (e.g. oil spills, accidental discharge of hazardous materials/wastes, chemicals, etc.).
- 7.2 Notify the Agency in writing of any change of name or ownership of the Permit Holder's facility within **thirty (30) days** after the change occurs.
- 7.3 Notify the Agency within **twenty one (21) days** in event of death, bankruptcy, liquidation or receivership of the Permit Holder or if the Company becomes a party to an amalgamation.
- 7.4 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees.
- 7.5 Make all employees, and third parties under your direction, aware of the conditions of the Permit and provide training on good environmental management practices.
- 7.6 Maintain and submit to the Agency records of the type, composition and quantity of contaminant released (i.e. any solid, liquid, gas, odour, sound, vibration, radiation, heat or combination of any of them).
- 7.7 Submit **Annual Reports** to the EPA on the progress of the operation and compliance with the conditions under which this Permit was granted on or before **March 31** of each year. Please see attached reporting format.
- 7.8 Comply with any lawful directions given by the EPA from time-to-time in furtherance of the implementation of any international or other obligation for the environmental protection of Guyana.

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- 7.9 Obtain approval from the Guyana Fire Service and provide fire protection measures such as fire extinguishers and sand buckets in accordance with this approval.
- 7.10 Ensure all firefighting equipment are maintained and serviced regularly.

8.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITIES\LIABILITIES

- 8.1 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, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 8.2 The EPA reserves the right to review and or 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 structures as determined by the Agency for projects of this nature.
- 8.3 The Permit Holder shall at all times allow entry to the permitted facility to any Officer designated by the EPA for the purpose of conducting inspections or any other legitimate business of the Agency. Pursuant to s.38 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, it is an offence to assault, obstruct or hinder an authorised person in the execution of his/her duty under the said Act or its Regulations and the Permit Holder shall be liable to penalties prescribed under paragraph (c) of the Fifth Schedule for doing so.
- 8.4 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 8.5 The Permit Holder shall be strictly liable for 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 this environmental authorisation, as are attributed to projects of this nature and in accordance with section 19(1), (2), and (3) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05.
- 8.6 The Permit Holder shall compensate any Party who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the attributed project. (See: s. 19(3) (e) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05)
- 8.7 The Permit Holder shall be responsible for the payment of all costs related to the assessment of damage and costs for the independent assessor(s).
- 8.8 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.

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- 8.9 The Permit Holder shall be liable of any gross negligence or willful misconduct caused by the Permit Holder, his Servants and/or Agents, to the environment, biodiversity, protected species and natural habitat with respect to any release or discharge, spill, contaminant fluids, oil or lubricants from the Gas Station.
- 8.10 Should the Permit Holder contravene or be likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency (EPA) may issue an enforcement notice to him, in accordance with s. 26 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05.
- 8.11 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 (EPA) shall issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice, which may include an order to immediately cease the offending activity. (See: s. 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05)
- 8.12 The Permit Holder is obligated to ensure that the Service Station is permitted by other relevant authorities.
- 8.13 This Operation Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein **May, 2019 to April, 2024.**
- 8.14 This **Operation Permit** shall remain valid until **April, 2024**, unless otherwise, suspended, cancelled, modified or varied in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 8.15 This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed Application Form for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation to the Agency at least six months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **December 31, 2023.**
- 8.16 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 day late, until such renewal application is submitted to the Agency, without prejudice to any other rights of the Permit Holder in connection therewith.
- 8.17 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit or with applicable laws and regulations, whether existing or forthcoming, shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to penalties, inclusive of civil penalties, injunctive relief and imprisonment, as prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection Regulations and other applicable laws of Guyana.

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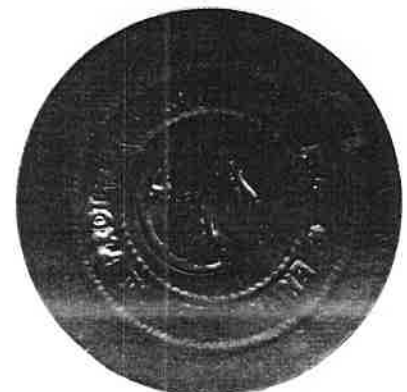
Signed by: Dr. Vincent Adams on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency

For Dr. Vincent Adams
Executive Director
Environmental Protection Agency

Date: June 7, 2019

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

NAME	<u>Cecil Skeete</u>
DESIGNATION	<u>Owner</u>
SIGNATURE	<u>Cecil Skeete</u>
DATE	<u>2019-06-07</u>



Handwritten signature or mark.