



## 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.:	20080502-RGSOO
Fee:	Small (C1) - US\$500 (5 years), i.e. US\$100 per year
Fee paid:	Small (C1)-US \$500 (July 2019-June 2024)
Address:	Mses. Alice C. Ross and Caretta A. Ross Proprietors Ross Service Station 220, Meadow Brook Gardens Georgetown
Activity:	Operation of a Gas Station



Mses. Alice C. Ross and Caretta A. Ross, operating as Ross Service Station, hereinafter referred to as the "Permit Holders", are 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 (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, to operate a Gas Station located at 1, Public Road, Ruimveldt, Georgetown, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Application submitted on April 16, 2019 and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein and any 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 Environmental Permit, Reference # 20080502-RGSOO, issued on July 16, 2014, which expired on June 30, 2019 and is deemed an Operation Permit-Renewed and issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

Terms and Conditions for Operation to be adhered to by the 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 fourteen (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 change. In this condition '**change in operation**' means a change in the nature or

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functioning, or an extension, of the installation, which may have consequences for the environment, including but not limited to the following:

- Changes in construction, structure, or layout of the facility, plant or building;
- Installation of new and/or changes to equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility or operation; or
- Any technology used or installed at the facility from which effluent may be discharged.

1.2 Adopt and comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Guidelines for the Design, Construction, Modification, and Maintenance of Petrol Filling Stations*, and any forthcoming code of practice/guidelines pertaining to the operation of service stations.

1.3 Maintain a sump below the fuel dispensers to capture any spillage that may occur.

1.4 Ensure that pipe entries under the pump sumps are sealed to prevent fuel leakage into ground and surface water.

1.5 Ensure that pipelines from tanks to offset filling points, dispensing equipment and vent pipes below the ground surface are well maintained. Pipelines should not be located under buildings. Ensure free access to the pipeline system for easy maintenance.

1.6 Ensure that all fuel is stored away from ignition sources and have '**No Smoking signs**' posted where fuel is handled or stored.

1.7 Maintain an impervious secondary containment bund around fuel storage tanks, creating a temporary holding area in the event of accidental spillage. The containment bund for areas with multiple tanks should have the capacity to provide at least 110% containment of the largest tank. The containment bund for areas with a solitary tank should have the capacity to provide 110% containment of the fuel tank.

1.8 Install leak detection mechanisms. At least two (2) of the following measures should be taken into consideration:

- Overflow alarms on tanks
- Dip stick
- Gauging system
- Sensors on walls of tank; or
- Electric shut down buttons

1.9 Ensure that control measures are in place to prevent the 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 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 (GNBS) Interim Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment. The following are the allowable limits for a Gas Station and should not be exceeded:

- pH 5.0-9.0,
- Temperature < 40 oC;
- Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 100 mg/L;
- Oil and Grease < 20 mg/L; and
- Total Dissolved Solid (TDS) < 40 mg/L.

- 2.3 Monitor the parameters listed in **condition 2.2** on an annual basis at the point of discharge (after the oil-water separator but before entering drainage system) and submit the results to the Agency as a component of the Annual Report required in condition 6.7.

- 2.4 Maintain drainage systems capable of handling the probable maximum precipitation storm event.

- 2.5 Maintain an interceptor drain, which must be adequately sloped to collect storm flow.

- 2.6 Store and dispose recovered oil from the oil-water separator in manner keeping with condition 5.4.

- 2.7 Do not discharge waste water effluent directly into receiving waters without prior treatment. Maintain an oil-water separator at strategic locations through which all effluent must pass before final discharge.

- 2.8 Avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils and other petroleum products. Store all oils, fuel, paints and chemicals in a designated area away from watercourses.

- 2.9 Conduct refuelling on an impervious base or implement the use of drip pans to prevent fuel contamination of soil/water.

## **3.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT**

- 3.1 Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000 and the Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000.

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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 meters (50 ft) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.

Commercial Limits:   **80 dB** during the daytime (06:00 h - 18:00 h)  
                                  **65 dB** during the night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h)

3.3 Ensure that all sound-making devices, such as 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 Guyana National of Standards (GNDS) requirement.

3.4 Ensure that the exhaust stacks of the generator are at least 2 meters above the generator house or the tallest building nearby, to minimize adverse fumes/soot impact to the mitigation area.

3.5 Ensure no recreational activities are conducted on site (i.e. bar-b-ques, limes, public gatherings, etc.).

3.5 Ensure that generator is placed on foundations properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibration.

#### **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 good house-keeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of your surroundings at all times.

4.3 Promote waste minimization and the reuse and/or recycling of waste material and other suitable materials when practical.

4.4 Maintain a septic tank system on site. 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*.

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**5.0 FUEL, WASTE OIL AND HAZARDOUS WASTE/MATERIALS MANAGEMENT**

- 5.1 Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Wastes 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 utilized, 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 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 **Schedules I and II** of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Wastes Management) Regulations, 2000**, to be hazardous. (Please see attached list.)

- 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, banded area to minimise adverse impacts to the environment in the event of spillage. The banded area must be labeled and 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, Environmental Guidelines on the 'Removal, Treatment and Disposal of Oily Sludge', 2011 (attached) or reuse waste oil as lubricant for chainsaw or other equipment\machinery.
- 5.5 Ensure that oil/fuel contaminated absorbent materials are appropriately stored and disposed; these material must be double wrapped in heavy duty garbage bags and disposed at an approved waste disposal facility. Hazardous contaminated absorbent pads can be disposed by an authorised Hazardous Waste Disposal company.
- 5.6 Refrain from draining fuel/lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways.
- 5.7 Ensure that a spill containment kit is on site and easily accessible at the Gas Station at all times and contains absorbent material, drain seals, disposal containers and absorbent spilt pads, etc.

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**6.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING**

- 6.1 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency within **24 hours** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies (e.g. oil spills, accidental discharge of hazardous materials/wastes, chemicals, etc.).
- 6.2 Notify the Agency in writing of any change of name or ownership of the Permit Holder's facility within **30 days** after the change occurs.
- 6.3 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.
- 6.4 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees.
- 6.5 Make all employees, and third parties under your direction, aware of the conditions of the Permit and provide training on good environmental management practices.
- 6.6 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).
- 6.7 Submit **Annual Reports** to the EPA on the progress of compliance of the operation with the conditions under which this Permit was granted on or before **March 31** of each year. Please see attached reporting format.
- 6.8 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.

**7.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY /LIABILITIES**

- 7.1 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.
- 7.2 The EPA reserves the right to review and/or amend the conditions and fees 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.
- 7.3 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. Pursuant to s.38 of the Environmental

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7.4 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.

7.5 The Permit Holder shall compensate any Party who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the attributed project. (s. 19(3)(e)) EP Act Cap. 20:05.

**7.6** 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.

7.7 The Permit Holder shall be liable of any gross negligence or willful misconduct caused by the Permit Holder, his Servants and / or Agents, to the environment, biodiversity, protected species and natural habitat with respect to any release or discharge, spill, contaminant fluids, oil or lubricants from the Service Station.

7.8 Should the Permit Holder contravene or be likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency (EPA) may serve him an enforcement notice in accordance with s. 26 of the EP Act Cap. 20:05. Failure to comply with an Enforcement Notice is an offence.

7.9 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 (EPA) shall 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.

7.10 The Permit Holder is obligated to ensure that the Gas Station is permitted by all other relevant authorities.

7.11 This Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein **July 01, 2019 to June 30, 2024.**

7.12 This **Operation Permit (Renewed)** shall remain valid until **June 30, 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.

7.13 This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed *Application Form for Environmental Authorisation* (Operation Permit) to the Agency at least **six months** before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **January 31, 2023**.

7.14 Any late submission of renewal application(s) after the specified date as stated



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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.

- 7.15 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to penalties prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, including under any existing or forthcoming regulations made under the said Act or any other applicable laws of Guyana.




Signed by:

on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Date:

July 19, 2019

We 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, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, and any existing or forthcoming regulations and standard made under this Act.


NAME	CARETTA ROSS-HOLKERSON
DESIGNATION	PROPER
SIGNATURE	
DATE	2019-08-14

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<b>NAME</b>	CARETTA ROSS-HOPKINSON for Alice C. Ross
<b>DESIGNATION</b>	PROSPECTOR
<b>SIGNATURE</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	2019-08-14



Handwritten notes in the top right corner: "1/28/05" and "H. Ross" with a signature.