



**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.:	20130130-JPGSO
Fees :	Small (C2) US\$ 175 per year (2019-2024)
Retroactive Fees:	Small (C1) US \$100 per Year (2015-2018)
Total Fee Paid:	US\$1275 (5 years: September 2019 - August 2024 + Retroactive fees)
Address:	Mr. Michael Chatargun Autar Proprietor Gateway Filling Station and Mini Mart 31 Lesbeholden, Black Bush Polder Corentyne Berbice.
Activity	Operation of a Filling Station and Mini-Mart

Mr. Michael Chatargun Autar, operating as Gateway Filling Station and 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 (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, to operate a Gas Station located at 31, Lesbeholden, Black Bush Polder, Corentyne, Berbice, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Renewal Application submitted on May 10, 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, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

This is a Renewal of the Operation Permit, Reference #20130130-JPGSO, issued in June, 2014, which expired on May 30, 2019. This Operation Permit - Renewed is 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 operation of the Filling Station at least fourteen (14) days before making the change. The notification shall contain a description of the proposed change in

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operation. It is not necessary to make such a notification if an **Application to vary** this Permit has been made and the Application contains a description of the proposed change. In this condition '**change in operation**' means a change in the nature or functioning, or an extension, of the installation, which may have consequences for the environment, including but not limited to the following:

- i. Changes in construction, structure, layout of the facility;
 - ii. Installation of new and/or changes to equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility or operation; and
 - iii. Any technology installed at the facility from which effluent may be discharged.
- 1.1 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 each fuel dispenser to capture any spillage that may occur.
 - 1.3 Ensure that pipe entries under the pump sumps are sealed to prevent fuel leaks.
 - 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 provide at least 110% containment of the largest tank. The containment wall for areas with solitary tanks should have the capacity to provide 110% containment of each fuel tank.
 - 1.6 Maintain leak detection mechanisms. At least two (2) of the following measures should be taken:
 1. An overflow alarm;
 2. A gauging system;
 3. Dipstick measurements;
 4. Sensors installed on walls of tank or;
 5. An electronic shut down system
 - 1.7 Ensure that corrosion control measures are in place to prevent the corrosion of underground steel tanks and pipe work.
 - 1.8 Ensure all relevant employees are trained in good environmental management practices and of their obligations under this Permit.

D.B. [Signature]

- 1.9 Construct and maintain a drainage system around the fuel dispensers. The drain should be at least 2 meters from the dispensers and leading to the oil-water separator.

2.0 WATER QUALITY

- 2.1 Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations 2000.
- 2.2 Maintain an oil-water separator through which all effluent must pass before final discharge.
- 2.3 Not discharge effluent directly into receiving waters without prior treatment. Discharges from the oil water separator/s 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 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;
 - Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH) < 40 mg/L
- 2.4 Monitor the parameters listed in condition 2.3 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 annual reports as required in condition 7.2.
- 2.5 Maintain an interceptor drain, which must be adequately sloped to collect storm flow. Ensure that drains are cleared of debris and/ or weeds on a regular basis to promote the free flow of 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.
- 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.

Residential Limits: **75 dB** [Day-time (06:00 h -18:00 h)]
60 dB [Night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h)]

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- 3.3 Ensure all sound-making devices, such as generators, are suitably enclosed within structures made with materials of good insulation properties (e.g. hollow concrete blocks, insulation boards, solid clay bricks, etc.) and equipped with silencers or mufflers to reduce the noise level.
- 3.4 Ensure that the exhaust stacks of the generator are 2 meters, above the generator room, to minimise adverse fumes/soot impacts to contiguous areas.
- 3.5 Ensure no recreational activities are conducted on site (i.e. bar-b-ques, limes, public gatherings, etc.).
- 3.6 Continue to operate and service all mechanical equipment in accordance with manufacturer's specifications at all times. Additionally, ensure that mechanical equipment is regularly maintained and work at their optimal levels to minimise atmospheric emissions.
- 3.7 Comply with GEA guidelines for the design, constructions, modification and maintenance of petrol filling station.
- 3.8 Implement a vapor recovery system for the offloading of bulk fuel, on site. Measures to reduce loading off loading emissions include selection of alternate loading methods and application of vapor recovery equipment.

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 At all times utilise the best practicable means of handling, storing and disposing of all waste materials.
- 4.3 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.
- 4.4 Maintain good housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of your surroundings at all times.
- 4.5 Maintain a good drainage system around the facility. The drainage system should be cleaned regularly and free of waste and vegetation.

D.B. [Signature]

5. ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- 5.1. Provide adequate fire protection measures. All firefighting equipment such as fire extinguishers and sand buckets should serviced regularly and placed at conspicuous locations onsite, in accordance with guidelines established by the Guyana Fire Service.
- 5.2. Maintain a supply of oil-absorbent materials such as absorbent pads, sand, etc at the site for the clean-up of spills
- 5.3. Submit to the Agency an Emergency Response Plan **three (3) months** after the issuance of this Permit.
- 5.4. 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 to respond to any spills that may occur onsite.

6. FUEL, WASTE OIL AND HAZARDOUS WASTE/MATERIAL MANAGEMENT

- 6.1. Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000.
- 6.2. 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.
- 6.3. 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 activity of the previous six (6) months.
- 6.4. In the event that waste oils (recovered from oil-water separator or from servicing of generators) are stored on site, it should be stored in a covered, bunded area to minimize adverse impacts to the environment in the event of a spillage. The bunded area must be clearly labeled and have the capacity to provide 110 % containment of the total volume of waste oils stored.

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- 6.5. Ensure that an appropriate spill containment kit is located at the Service Station. The kit should contain absorbent material to absorb spilt oil and other spilt liquids.
- 6.6. Ensure that oil/fuel contaminated adsorbent materials are appropriately stored and disposed of by double wrapping in heavy duty garbage bags. All contaminated absorbent materials must be disposed of at an authorized Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility.
- 6.7. Store all fuel away from ignition sources and have 'No Smoking' signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 6.8. 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 measure for each site of operation in the event of a spill. This clean-up plan must be updated annually.
- 6.9. Submit to the Agency within **three (3) months** 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.

7. COMPLIANCE, MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 7.1 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 7.2 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.
- 7.3 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.
- 7.4 Inform the Agency prior to or within **thirty (30) days** of any change of name or ownership of the operation.
- 7.5 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.

- 7.6 Notify the EPA **within twenty-four (24) hours** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies such as a sudden onset disaster, accident, natural, technological or human induced factors that cause or threaten to cause severe environmental damage as well as harm to human health or livelihood.
- 7.7 Report to the Agency of non-compliance with the Operation Permit (Renewed):
- Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Operation Permit (Renewed) becomes aware of the non-compliance, the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.
 - 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.
 - 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.
- 7.8 Ensure all relevant employees are trained in good environmental management practices and of their obligations under this Permit.
- 7.9 Make all employees aware of the Conditions of the Operation Permit and provide training on good environmental practices.

8.0 INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES/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 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 Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, it is an offence to assault, obstruct or hinder an authorized 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.
- 8.3 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 project of this nature
- 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.

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- 8.5 The Permit Holder shall compensate any Party who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the attributed project. (S. 19(3) (e)) Environmental Protection Act Cap. 20:05. Laws of Guyana
- 8.6 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).
- 8.7 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.
- 8.8 The Permit Holder shall be liable of any gross negligence or willful misconduct caused by the Permit Holder, his Servants and/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.
- 8.9 Should the Permit Holder contravene or is likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency (EPA) may serve him an enforcement notice in accordance with s. 26 of the Environmental Protection Act Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana
- 8.10 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 Ordering him to immediately cease the offending activity. S. 27 Environmental Protection Act Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana
- 8.11 The Permit Holder is obligated to ensure that the Filling Station is permitted by other relevant authorities.
- 8.12 This Operation Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein **September, 2019 to August, 2024.**
- 8.13 This Operation Permit shall remain valid until **August 31, 2024**, unless otherwise cancelled, suspended, modified or varied in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 8.14 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 **February 28, 2024.**
- 8.15 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.

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8.16 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, and the Environmental Regulations including civil penalties and injunctive relief.

Signed by  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Dr. Vincent Adams
Executive Director

Date

September 30, 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 (Authorizations) Regulations, 2000, and any existing or forthcoming regulations, standards and best practices made under this Act.

NAME	<u>Don't forget Buddy.</u>
DESIGNATION	<u>Partner of Attorney</u>
DATE	<u>02. 010 2019.</u>
SIGNATURE	<u>D.B.</u>



D.B. [Signature]