



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

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Operation Permit

(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.:	20180921-DSRSC
Fees :	Small (C1) US\$500 (5 years) i.e. US \$100 per year
Fee Paid :	US\$500 (April, 2019 to March, 2024)
Addressee:	Mr. Doolwant Sooklall 27 Bushlot Village, Corentyne, Berbice.
Activity:	Operation of a Gas Station.

Doolwant Sooklall, 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 7 & 8 Bushlot Farm, Corentyne, Berbice hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein and any existing or forthcoming regulations, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

Terms and Conditions for Operation 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 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:

- Changes in construction, structure, or layout of the facility.

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- 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.
- 1.2 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 Gas Station.
 - 1.3 Maintain an impervious secondary containment wall around the above-ground 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 tank should have the capacity to provide 110% containment of the fuel tank.
 - 1.4 Maintain an interceptor drain, which must be adequately sloped to collect storm flow.
 - 1.5 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.
 - 1.6 Maintain a sump below the fuel dispensers to capture any spillage that may occur.
 - 1.7 Ensure that pipe entries under the pump sumps are sealed to prevent fuel leakage into ground and surface water.
 - 1.8 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.
 - 1.9 Ensure that all fuel is stored away from ignition sources and have '**No Smoking signs**' posted where fuel is handled or stored.
 - 1.10 Install leak detection mechanisms. At least two (2) of the following measures should be taken into consideration:
 - Overflow alarms on tanks;
 - Gauging system;
 - Sensors on walls of tank; or
 - Electric shut down buttons.

- 1.11 Ensure that corrosion control measures are in place to prevent the corrosion of underground steel tanks and pipe work.

2.0 WATER QUALITY

- 2.1 Comply with and adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations 2000.
- 2.2 Maintain the Integrity of the existing waterways at all times. Effluent discharge 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 °C;
 - 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 2.1 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 7.7.
- 2.4 Construct and 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 a manner in 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 a strategic location in the area 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.

3.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Comply with and adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations 2000 and the Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000.
- 3.2 Handle and store liquid fuel in such a manner so as to prevent the emission of offensive odors to the air outside the property boundary.
- 3.3 Monitor any malfunction or breakdown leading to abnormal emissions promptly. Adjust process until normal operations can be restored.
- 3.4 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** during the daytime (06:00 h - 18:00 h)
65 dB during the night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h)

- 3.5 Ensure that all sound-making devices, such as generators, are suitably 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.
- 3.6 Ensure that the exhaust stacks of the generator(s) are **at least 2 meters above** the generator house or the tallest building nearby, to minimise adverse fumes/soot impacts to the contiguous areas.
- 3.7 Ensure no recreational activities are conducted on site (i.e. bar-b-ques, limes, public gatherings, etc.).

4.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Comply 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 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 tank 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.

5.0 HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Comply with and 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 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.)

- 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 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 of at an approved waste disposal facility. Hazardous contaminated absorbent pads can be disposed of by an authorised Hazardous Waste Disposal company.

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- 5.6 Refrain from draining fuel/lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways.
- 5.7 Ensure all pumps and underground tanks are inspected regularly for leak detection.
- 5.8 Ensure that a spill containment kit is on site and easily accessible at the Gas Station at all times; which contains absorbent material, drain seals, disposal containers and absorbent silt pads, etc.
- 5.9 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.

Submit to the Agency a notification and Clean-up Plan for the facility in the event of a spill. Clean-up Plan must include details of the location of all materials stored on site as well as notification and clean-up measures for each area of the operation in the event of a spill. This clean-up plan must be updated annually.

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- 6.1 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency within **24 hours** of 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.
- 6.3 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.

7.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 7.1 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.).

7.2 Notify the Agency in writing of any change of name or ownership of the Permit

Holder's facility within **thirty days** after the change occurs.

7.3 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.

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 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.

7.9 Ensure all firefighting equipment are maintained and serviced regularly.

8.0 INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY /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 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.

8.3 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 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

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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 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.
- 8.6 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.
- 8.7 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 Gas Station.
- 8.8 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 EP Act Cap. 20:05.
- 8.9 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.
- 8.10 The Permit Holder is obligated to ensure that the Gas Station is permitted by all other relevant authorities.
- 8.11 This Operation Permit (Renewed) is effective for the period stipulated herein; **April, 2019 to March, 2024.**
- 8.12 This **Operation Permit** shall remain valid until **March 31, 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.
- 8.13 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 **October 31, 2023.**
- 8.14 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

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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.


- 8.15 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 civil penalties and injunctive relief.

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

Date

5/4/19

I hereby accept the above terms and conditions upon which this Operation Permit is granted and agree to abide by the Environmental Protection Act, 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	SOOLWANT SOORUCC
DESIGNATION	OPERATOR
SIGNATURE	
DATE	2019-04-04