



**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 (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

Reference No.:	20140303-PFPBB
Fee:	Small (C2) - US\$175 per year
Fee Paid:	US\$350: Two (2) years (May 2022 – April 2024)
Addressee:	Hemchand Chanderbir Secretary Essequibo Island West/Demerara Fishermen Federation Co-operative Society Ltd. Lot 180 Parika East Bank Essequibo Region No. 3
Activity:	Operation of a Riverine Gas Station

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Database Updated
30/06/22

Hemchand Chanderbir, trading and operating under the name Essequibo Island West/Demerara Fishermen Federation Co-operative Society Ltd., hereinafter referred to as the “Permit Holder”, is hereby authorised by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), hereinafter referred to as the “Agency”, 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 Riverine Gas Station, located at Lot 180 Parika, East Bank Essequibo, Region No. 3, hereinafter referred to as the “Project”, in a manner indicated in the Application form for Renewal of an Environmental Authorisation submitted on November 18, 2020, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, existing and/or forthcoming regulations made under the said Act, and/or any applicable laws, guidelines, best practices and standards relevant to this project.

This is a Renewal of the Operation Permit, Reference No. 20140303-PFPBB issued on December 03, 2015, expired on October 30, 2017.

Terms and Conditions for the operation to adhered to by the Permit Holder, his Servant(s), Agent(s) and/or Sub-contractor(s):

H.C.

Environmental Permit (Renewed) Ref. No. 20140303-PFPBB

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1.0 OPERATION

- 1.1 Make an application to the Agency to vary this Environmental Permit (Renewed) in instances where it becomes necessary to:
 - i. change the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and associated buildings;
 - ii. change equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the facility;
 - iii. change the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents; or
 - iv. effect any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.2 Adopt and comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standard (GNBS) "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.
- 1.3 Adhere to the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap. 99:01, Laws, of Guyana.
- 1.4 Pipe entries under the pump sumps shall be sealed to prevent fuel leaks.
- 1.5 Pipelines from tanks to offset filling points, dispensing equipment and vent pipes located below the ground surface shall not be located under buildings and shall be accessible for easy maintenance.
- 1.6 An electronic shut down system shall be maintained as the primary leak detection mechanism, along with any one or more of the following:
 - i. A gauging system;
 - ii. An overflow alarm on tanks;
 - iii. Dipstick measurements; or
 - iv. Sensors installed on walls of tank.
- 1.7 Make all employees, and third parties under your direction, aware of the conditions of this Environmental Permit and provide training on good environmental practices. Annual training schedule shall be kept and submitted to the EPA upon request.
- 1.8 Obtain and maintain Guyana Fire Service Approval and submit a copy of that approval for the Agency's records within the first quarter of every year.
 - 1.8.1 Fire prevention and control equipment shall be maintained in accordance with this Approval.

Environmental Permit (Renewed) Ref. No. 20140303-PFPBB

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1.9 REFUELING AND FUEL DELIVERY AREA

1.11.1 Fuel deliveries shall be supervised.

1.11.2 Fuel delivery points shall be equipped with a collection trap to collect spilt fuel and divert it to a 'slop tank'.

1.10 CANOPY

1.11.1 Cover the fuel dispensing area with a roof that has an overhang of at least 10 degrees.

1.11 In an emergency switch off all pumps using the automatic pump cut-off. Switches shall be readily accessible to the console attendant and be clearly marked '**Emergency Shut-off Switch**'.

1.12 Submit to the Agency within **three (3) months** of receipt of this Permit, an **Emergency Response Plan (ERP)** for approval. This Plan shall be communicated to employees, and third parties under your direction and include but not be limited to:

- 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;
- vi. Materials safety data sheet for all materials which could be spilled; and
- vii. An Incident Clean-up Plan.

2.0 UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS (USTs)

2.1 All fuel tanks shall be equipped with a functional leak and overfill protection system as required in Condition 1.8.

2.2 All metallic components (such as tanks, piping, and joints) in contact with soil shall have corrosion protection and tanks shall be placed in an inert material first, e.g., sand.

2.3 Piping connecting the fuel storage tanks and the fuel dispenser shall be fitted in a half-pipe casing of a larger diameter by **May 31, 2022**, so that any leakage in the connecting pipes can be detected in a timely manner.

2.4 Underground storage tanks shall be double walled.

2.5 Submit an Underground Storage Tank Decommissioning Plan to the EPA for approval at least **fourteen (14) days** prior to closure of UST/s.

Environmental Permit (Renewed) Ref. No. 20140303-PFPBB

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2.6 Temporary or permanent closure of USTs shall be conducted in accordance with the Decommissioning Plan approved by the EPA.

3.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

3.1 Strictly adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.

4.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

4.1 Strictly adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000 and the Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000.

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

4.3 Equip all significant noise-producing equipment, such as generators, with silencers or mufflers and/or enclose in suitable acoustic structures (e.g., hollow concrete blocks, insulation boards, solid clay bricks, etc.), to reduce noise levels impacting the surrounding environment and to achieve compliance with GNBS requirement.

4.4 Exhaust stacks of the generator shall be at least two (2) meters above the generator room, to minimise adverse fumes/soot impacts to contiguous areas.

4.5 Operate and service all mechanical equipment in accordance with manufacturer's specifications to ensure efficiency. Mechanical equipment shall be regularly maintained, and operate at their optimal levels to minimise atmospheric emissions.

5.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

5.1 In accordance with the Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013, promote good sanitation and solid waste disposal practices on

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site; covered garbage receptacles shall be placed at strategic locations at the facility. Waste shall be collected and disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility.

- 5.2 Utilise the best practicable means of handling, storing and disposing of all waste materials at all times.
- 5.3 Maintain a septic system on site at all times. The septic tank shall not be located within 1.5 meters of a building or property boundary, and shall 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."*
- 5.6 Burning of garbage is **strictly prohibited**.
- 5.7 Submit an Incident Report to the Agency within **seven (7) days** of an unplanned release or spill of fuel and/or chemicals, detailing the root cause of the spill, volume spilled, immediate action(s) taken, recommendation(s) to be implemented to avoid a similar event, location of all materials stored on site and notification and clean-up measure for each site of operation.

6.0 FUEL, WASTE OIL AND HAZARDOUS WASTE/ MATERIAL MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 Strictly adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000.
- 6.2 Waste oils recovered from servicing of generator stored on site, shall 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.
- 6.3 Store contaminated fuel in closed leak proof containers and label "slop tanks" or 'waste fuel'.
- 6.4 Store all fuel waste above ground level in a bunded area to allow easy maintenance and leak detection.
- 6.5 Oil/fuel contaminated absorbent materials shall be appropriately stored and disposed of by double wrapping in heavy duty garbage bags. All contaminated absorbent materials shall be disposed of at an authorized Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility.

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- 6.6 Store all fuel away from ignition sources and have **'No Smoking'** signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 6.7 Refrain from draining fuel or lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways.
- 6.8 A clear sign outlining spill clean-up procedures and emergency contact numbers shall be prominently displayed at the Gas Station and Riverine Gas Station at all times.
- 6.9 Appropriate clean-up equipment such as spill trays, oil spill clean-up recover pump, or sorbent pads shall be readily accessible to respond to any spills that may occur onsite.

7.0 COMPLIANCE, MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 7.1 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency within **one (1) hour** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies (e.g., oil spills, hazardous materials/wastes spills, sudden onset disaster, natural, technological or human-induced factors that cause or threaten to cause severe environmental damage as well as harm to human health or livelihood).
- 7.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 7.3 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.
- 7.4 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.
- 7.5 Submit Annual Reports to the Agency on your compliance with this Permit on or before **March 31**, each year.
- 7.6 A Consolidated Annual Report for the reporting period 2015-2021 shall be submitted to the Agency **on or before June 30, 2022**.
- 7.7 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with the Environmental Permit (Renewed):
 - I. Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Authorisation for operation becomes aware of the non-

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compliance outlining the anticipated manner in which human health or the environment may be impacted.

II. Within **seventy-two (72) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit (Renewed) becomes aware of the non-compliance, submit to the Agency a written report containing a description of the non-compliance, its cause, the period of non-compliance including exact dates and time and the anticipated time it is expected to continue if the non-compliance(s) has not been corrected.

- 7.7 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).
- 7.8 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.

8.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 8.1 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any material environmental harm caused by polluting the environment, pursuant to s. 39 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 8.2 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any serious environmental harm caused by polluting the environment, pursuant to s. 39 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 8.3 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any activity that causes or is likely to cause pollution of the environment unless all reasonable and practicable measures are taken to prevent or minimize any resulting adverse effect, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 8.4 The Permit Holder shall be liable for discharging, causing or permitting the entry into the environment, of any contaminant in any amount, concentration or level excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by this Environmental Permit (Renewed), pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 8.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 8.3 and 8.4 of this Environmental Permit (Renewed), pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

Environmental Permit (Renewed) Ref. No. 20140303-PFPBB

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- 8.6 The Permit Holder shall not be indemnified by the Agency for any activity that causes or is likely to cause pollution to the environment, resulting from adverse effects through the discharge, any contaminant in any amount, concentration, ultra hazardous substances, chemicals or otherwise, and shall be rendered liable to prosecution and to penalties prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act and Regulations.
- 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, discharge, or spill, of contaminant fluids, oil or lubricants.
- 8.8 Should the Permit Holder contravene or be likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency (EPA) may serve on him an Enforcement Notice in accordance with Section 26 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 8.9 Where it appears to the Agency that the Permit Holder is engaged in any activity that may pose a serious threat to natural resources or the environment, or a risk of serious pollution of the environment or any damage to public health, the EPA may issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice, which may order him to immediately cease the offending activity, in accordance with Section 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 8.10 The EPA reserves the right to conduct regular inspections of the Permit Holder's activities as part of its monitoring and enforcement requirements under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, and the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 8.11 The Permit Holder, His Servants and/or Agents 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 Section 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.
- 8.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 8.13 **This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**

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- 8.14 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is effective for the period stipulated **herein (May 2022 – April 2024)**.
- 8.15 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until, **April 30, 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.
- 8.16 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 **October 31, 2024**.
- 8.17 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.
- 8.18 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.

Signed by *Kemraj Parsram* on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Kemraj Parsram
Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director

Date: 2022.05.06



Environmental Permit (Renewed) Ref. No. 20140303-PFPBB

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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, Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, and any existing or forthcoming regulations, standards and best practices made under this Act.

NAME	<i>Hemchand Chanderbir</i>
DESIGNATION	<i>Chair Man</i>
DATE	<i>27-6-2022</i>
SIGNATURE	<i>Hemchand Chanderbir</i>