



## 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.:	20140703-DGPGS
Fee:	Small (C1) - US\$175 per year
Fee paid:	US\$875: Five (5) years (August 2022 – July 2027)
Address:	Deepa Getram and Bharrat Getram Proprietor Getram's Investment Service Station 533, Lethem Rupununi Essequibo, Region #9
Activity:	Construction and Operation of a Gas Station



Deepa and Bharrat Getram, operating under the name Getram's Investment Service Station 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 construct and operate a Gas Station located 533, Lethem, Essequibo, Region #9, Guyana, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Application submitted on March 02, 2022, 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 Environmental Permit – Renewed, Reference No. 20140703-DGPGS issued on June 14, 2016, expired May 31, 2021.

The Permit Holder, His Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractor(s) shall comply with the following Terms and Conditions for Operation:

### 1.0 GENERAL

- 1.1 Make an application to the Agency to vary this Environmental Permit in instances where it becomes necessary to:

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- i. Change the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and all 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. Affect any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.

1.2 Submit to the Agency the following requisite approvals for the Construction and Operation of a Gas Station, by **November 30, 2022**:

- i. An updated copy of the Guyana Fire Service Licence;
- ii. An updated copy of the Guyana Energy Agency Licence (GEA); and
- iii. An updated copy of the Business Registration.

1.3 Submit an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) by **November 30, 2022**, to the Agency 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;
- vi. Materials safety data sheet for all materials which could be spilled; and
- vii. An Incident Clean-up Plan.

1.4 A clear sign outlining spill clean-up procedures and emergency contact numbers shall be prominently displayed at the Gas Station at all times.

1.5 Strictly adhere to the requirements of the **Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap. 99:01, Laws of Guyana.**

1.6 Make all employees, and third parties under your direction, aware of the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation and provide training on good environmental practices. Prepare and maintain a training file for employees which shall be submitted to Officers upon request.

1.7 Utilise the land in accordance with the approved site plan, all specifications of location, pathways, reserve and boundary lines must be adhered to, unless otherwise authorised.

1.8 Avoid construction works between **18:00h and 06:00h** on any day.

1.9 Practice the use of caution signs to warn against potential hazards or to caution

against unsafe practices.

**1.10 Adhere to the Drainage & Irrigation Laws of Guyana. Cap.64:03.**

- 1.10.1 Construct an adequate drainage system at the facility and ensure that the land is levelled and appropriately built up to avoid floods and contamination of the receiving waters; and
- 1.10.2 Construct a perimeter drain, which shall be adequately sloped to collect storm flow.
- 1.11 Identify suitable areas on the site for material stockpile and equipment during construction.
- 1.12 All building\construction materials stored in tiers shall be stacked, racked, blocked, interlocked, or otherwise secured to prevent sliding, falling or collapse.
- 1.13 The gas station shall be appropriately designed for its intended purpose, including, but not limited to, safety, life span, corrosion resistance and maintenance, ease of access, ease of refilling and with the least number of environmental impacts possible.
- 1.14 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 and/or guidelines pertaining to the operation of Gas Station.
- 1.15 The gas station shall be constructed on properties that have the minimum required setbacks distance as follows:

**Underground Storage Tank (USTs):**

- i. A minimum of fifteen (15) feet away from any building within the compound;
  - ii. A minimum of thirty (30) feet away from the property line; and
  - iii. Shall be covered with a minimum of three (3) feet of earth and six (6) inch thick concrete reinforce powered slab.
- 1.16 Prior to installation of the underground double-walled storage tanks the Permit Holder shall provide to the EPA, information including:
- i. Letter from fabricator confirming that he/she was contracted to fabricate tanks and associated works/services;
  - ii. Detailed design, construction drawings, and specifications of foundation where tanks are resting;
  - iii. Detailed design, drawings, specifications, methodology of tanks being fabricated, pipes used, valves and accessories;

- iv. Mill Test certificates of all steel used for fabrication of tanks and also pipe specifications;
- v. Non-Destructive Test certificate or other test to verify the quality and integrity of the welds; and
- vi. Pressure test certificate on tanks, pipes and valves.

1.17 All metallic components for the underground storage tanks (such as tanks, piping, and joints) which are in contact with soil shall have corrosion protection. Tanks shall be placed in an inert material first e.g. sand.

1.18 Install a sump below the fuel dispensers to capture any spillage that may occur.

1.19 Pipe entries under the pump sumps shall be sealed to prevent fuel leakage into ground and surface water.

1.20 Pipelines from tanks to offset filling points, dispensing equipment and vent pipes below the ground surface shall be well constructed and maintained.

1.20.1 Pipelines shall not be located under buildings. Ensure free access to the pipeline system for easy maintenance.

1.21 At least two (2) leak detection mechanisms shall be installed:

- i. An overflow alarms on tanks;
- ii. A gauging system;
- iii. Dipstick measurements; or
- iv. Sensors installed on walls of tanks.

## 1.22 REFUELING, FUEL DELIVERY AND CANOPY

### 1.22.1 Refueling and Fuel Delivery Area

- i. Fuel deliveries shall be supervised and must be conducted within the forecourt containment area, or in an area with separate bunding;
- ii. Fuel delivery points shall be equipped with a collection trap to collect spill fuel and divert it to a 'slop tank';
- iii. All inlets to underground storage tanks shall be located within a bunded area to contain any spills resulting from discharge of fuel from tankers;
- iv. Monitoring well in the forecourt shall be located downslope of the underground tanks so the wells can be assessed.



**1.22.2 CANOPY**

- i. Cover the fuel dispensing area with a roof that has an overhang of at least 10 degrees.
  - ii. Uncontaminated rainwater gathered from the canopy and other roofed areas must be reused or directed away from the facility
- 1.23 Remove all construction tools, equipment, machinery, and waste material(s) from site on the completion of construction works.
- 1.24 Avoid road traffic hazards or unnecessary inconveniences to the general public through appropriate planning and management of the construction site.
- 1.25 Portable toilets shall be well-maintained and emptied regularly by an approved disposal service provider.

**2.0 OPERATION OF GAS STATION**

- 2.1 A register of the quantities of fuel stored onsite shall be established and maintained. A summary of the registered information shall be submitted to the EPA as a component of the Annual Report.
- 2.2 Store all fuel away from ignition sources and have '**No Smoking**' signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 2.3 In an emergency, switch off all pumps using the automatic pump cut-off. Switches shall be readily accessible to the console attendant/s and be clearly marked "**Emergency Shut-off Switch**".
- 2.4 Emergency spill cleanup kits shall be maintained by **September 31, 2022**, for response to potential spills. Emergency spill cleanup kits shall be readily available, accessible and maintained at the Project Site. Kits shall contain absorbent materials, drain seals and other appropriate tools for clean-up of potential spills.
- 2.5 Maintenance and/or repair of fittings, pipes and hoses shall be in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.
- 2.6 A **Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)** for fuel transfer operations including a checklist of measures to follow during filling operations shall be established and maintained. A copy of this SOP shall be submitted to the EPA upon request.
- 2.6.1. All employees shall be trained on the SOP outlined in Condition 2.6. An annual training schedule shall be maintained and submitted to the EPA upon request.

### 3.0 UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS (USTs)

3.1 All fuel tanks shall be equipped with a functional leak and overfill protection system as required in Condition 1.21.

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

3.3 Submit an Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) Decommissioning Plan to the EPA for approval at least **fourteen (14) days** prior to closure of USTs.

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

### 4.0 GROUNDWATER MONITORING

4.1 Install a minimum of **three (3)** groundwater monitoring wells around the storage facility within **six (6) months** of receipt of this Permit.

4.1.1 The groundwater monitoring wells shall be inspected to assess any potential leaks and impacts to groundwater.

4.1.2 Submit a groundwater monitoring plan which shall include the location and design of wells, for review and approval by the Agency. The plan shall be submitted to the Agency by **November 30, 2022**.

4.2 The groundwater monitoring wells shall be installed by a licensed well driller/drilling company.

### 5.0 WATER AND SOIL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

5.1 Strictly adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulation, 2000**.

5.2 Maintain the integrity of the existing waterways at all times. Discharges into the environment shall 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 this type of project and shall be not be exceeded:

- i. Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 100 mg/L;
- ii. Oil and Grease < 20 mg/L; and
- iii. Total Dissolved Solid (TDS) < 40 mg/L.

5.3 A water quality monitoring plan including but not limited to sampling point/s displayed on a map and frequency of sampling shall be submitted to the EPA for

approval by **November 30, 2022.**

- 5.4 Monitoring of the parameters in Condition 5.1 shall be conducted in accordance to the approved monitoring plan and the results submitted to the Agency as part of the Annual Report.
- 5.5 Avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils and other petroleum products that might be used at the construction site. Store all oils, fuel, paints and chemicals in a designated area, away from all waterways and drainage channels.
- 5.6 Conduct equipment refueling, maintenance and placement on an impervious base to prevent fuel spills/leaks. Oil spills shall be cleaned-up by the best available technology (BAT) to prevent runoff into any watercourse within the project's area of influence.
- 5.7 Do not discharge waste water effluents directly into receiving waters/drainage without prior treatment.
- 5.8 Install an oil-water separator on the facility which all effluent must pass before the final discharge, by **September 30, 2022.** The oil-water separator shall be installed by a licensed contractor.

#### **6.0 NOISE ABATEMENT AND AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT**

- 6.1 Strictly adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations 2000 and the Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000.**
- 6.2 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.
- 6.3 Promptly monitor any malfunction or breakdown leading to abnormal emissions. Adjust process until normal operations can be restored.
- 6.4 Comply with the *Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment*. Sound levels from noise-making devices shall be not exceed the limits below, at a distance of 15 meters (50ft) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.

Construction Limits: **90 dB** during the daytime (06:00 h - 18:00 h)  
**75 dB** during the night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h)

Limit the driving of piles to daylight hours, when persons are less likely to be affected by vibration and noise nuisance.

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

6.5 All sound-making devices, such as generators, shall be suitably enclosed and constructed 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.

6.6 Exhaust stacks of the generator(s) shall be at least **two (2) meters** above the generator house or the tallest building nearby, to minimise adverse fumes/soot impacts to the contiguous areas.

6.7 Place all equipment on foundation properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibration.

## 7.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

7.1 In accordance to the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013**, promote good sanitation and solid waste disposal practices on site; covered garbage receptacles shall be placed at strategic locations at the facility. Waste shall be collected and disposed at an approved waste disposal facility.

7.2 Maintain a septic tank system on site. 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 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".

7.3 Burning of garbage is strictly prohibited

7.4 Utilise the best practicable means of handling, storing and disposing of all waste materials at all times.

7.5 Establish and maintain a waste disposal manifest. Details must include:

- i. Type of waste produced; and
- ii. Quantity of waste; storage method, etc.

## 8.0 FUEL, WASTE OIL AND HAZARDOUS WASTE / MATERIAL MANAGEMENT

8.1 Strictly adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Wastes Management) Regulations 2000**.

8.2 Waste oil recovered from oil-water separator or from servicing of generators shall be stored in a covered, banded area to minimize adverse impacts to the environment in the event of a spillage. The banded area shall be clearly labeled and have the capacity to provide 110% containment of the total volume of waste oils stored.



- 8.3 Store any contaminated fuel in closed leak proof containers and label "slop tanks" or 'waste fuel'.
- 8.4 Store all fuel waste above ground level in a bunded area to allow easy maintenance and leak detection.
- 8.5 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.
- 8.6 Refrain from draining fuel/lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways.
- 8.7 Regularly inspect all pumps and underground tanks for leak detection.
- 8.8 Store all fuel away from ignition sources and have 'No Smoking' signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 8.9 Refrain from draining fuel or lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways

#### **9.0 COMPLIANCE, MONITORING AND REPORTING**

- 9.1 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).
- 9.2 All near misses, spills and unwanted/accidental discharges, **amounting to less than imperial five (5) gallons**, must be recorded and reported to the Agency as a component of the Annual Report as required in Condition 9.8.
- 9.3 Discharge of contaminants amounting to **five (5) imperial gallons or more** must be reported to the Agency by submitting an "Incident Notification Form for Spills in Onshore Operations" using the most recent template provided by the Agency, within **forty-eight (48) hours** of the incident. A follow-up incident notification form shall be submitted within **seventy-two (72) hours** of the submission of the initial notification form (a total of five days after the discharge of contaminants).
- 9.4 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.
- 9.5 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.

9.6 Maintain and submit to the Agency records of the type, composition and quantity of contaminant released (i.e., any solid, liquid, gas, odor, sound, vibration, heat or combination of any of them).

9.7 Submit **Annual Reports** to the EPA on your compliance with this Permit on or before **March 31**, each year.

9.8 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with the Environmental Permit:

I. **Within twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit for operation becomes aware of the non-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 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.

9.9 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.

## 10.0 INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY \ LIABILITIES

10.1 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.

10.2 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.

10.3 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.

10.4 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, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

- 10.5. The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 10.3 and 10.4 of this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 10.6. 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.
- 10.7. 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.
- 10.8. 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.
- 10.9. 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.
- 10.10. 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, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 10.11. 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.
- 10.12. The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.

10.13. This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.

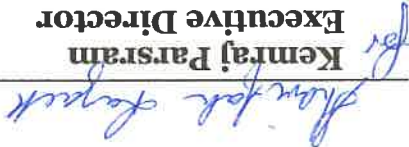
10.14. This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is effective for the period stipulated herein, (August 2022 – July 2027).

10.15. This Environmental Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until July 31, 2023, 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.

10.16. This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed Application form for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation to the Agency at least six (6) months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than January 31, 2027.

10.17. Any late submission of renewal application (s) after the specified date as stated above, may require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to renewal fee, a late penalty fee (accruing at the time such obligation was first owed for renewal) at a rate of two thousand dollars (GY\$2000.00) 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.

10.18. 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  for Kenneth Pararam  
Executive Director  
Agency. on behalf of the Environmental Protection

Date

2022.08.05



**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, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, and any forthcoming regulations, best practices and standards made under this Act.**

<b>NAME</b>	Bharat Getram & Deepa Getram
<b>DESIGNATION</b>	Owner
<b>SIGNATURE</b>	Bharat Getram      Deepa Getram
<b>DATE</b>	2022/08/05

