



**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:	20100922-GOVSS
Fee:	Small (C2) - US\$175 per year
Fee Paid:	US\$875 (5 years: March, 2022 – February, 2027)
Addressee:	The Guyana Oil Company Limited 191 Camp Street, South Cummingsburg, Georgetown.
Activity:	Operation of a Service Station

Guyana Oil Company Limited, operating as GUYOIL 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 operate a Gas Station, located at Victoria, East Coast Demerara, hereinafter referred to as the “Project”, in a manner indicated in the Application for Renewal of Environmental Authorization submitted on July 28, 2021, 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, Reference No. 20100922-GOVSS, issued on May 21, 2019, which expired on February 28, 2022. The Environmental Permit-Renewed is issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection (Authorisation) Regulations, 2000.

Terms and Conditions for operation to be adhered to by the Permit Holder, his servants, agent(s) and/or sub-contractor(s):

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 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 Adopt and comply with the Guyana National Bureau of 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.
- 1.3 Maintain a sump below each fuel dispenser to capture any spillage that may occur.
- 1.4 Pipe entries under the pump sumps shall be sealed to prevent fuel leaks.
- 1.5 Route pipelines from tanks to offset filling points, dispensing equipment and vent pipes below the ground surface. Pipelines shall not be located under buildings and shall be accessible for easy maintenance.
- 1.6 Maintain an impervious secondary containment wall around above-ground fuel storage tanks. The containment wall for areas with multiple tanks shall have the capacity to provide containment for at least 110% of the volume of the largest tank. The containment wall for areas with solitary tanks shall have the capacity to provide 110% containment of the volume of the fuel tank.
- 1.7 Maintain an impervious drainage system around the fuel dispensers. The drain must be at least 2 meters from the dispensers and leading to the oil-water separator.
- 1.8 An electronic shut down system shall be installed as a primary leak detection mechanism, along with any one or more of the following:
1. A gauging system;
 2. An overflow alarm on tanks;
 3. Dipstick measurements; or

4. Sensors installed on walls of tank.

- 1.9 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 submitted in the Annual Report.
- 1.10 The Gas station shall be provided with adequate fire prevention and control equipment. This may include a smoke detection and alarm system, access to fire extinguishers, fire hydrants or sprinkler systems as appropriate.

2.0 FORECOURT

2.1 RUELING AND FUEL DELIVERY

- 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 also be equipped with a collection trap to collect spilt 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. The monitoring well in the forecourt shall be located downslope of the underground tanks so the well can be assessed.

2.2 CANOPY

- I. Cover the fuel dispensing area with a roof that has an overhang of at least 10 degrees.
- II. Direct uncontaminated rainwater away from the canopy and other roofed areas into storm water drains.

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 1.8.**
- 3.2 All metallic components (such as tanks, piping, and joints) in contact with soil must have corrosion protection. Tanks should be placed in an inert material first, e.g., sand.
- 3.3 Underground storage tanks shall be double walled, and the specification/s shall be submitted to the Agency.



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

3.5 Temporary or permanent closure of UST's shall be conducted in accordance with the Decommissioning Plan approved by the EPA.

4.0 ABOVE -GROUND STORAGE TANKS (ASTs)

4.1 ASTs shall be located in impervious bunds to reduce the risk of groundwater and land contamination. Bund walls must be used to divert storm-water away from storage areas. Storage areas shall be located at least 100 meters away from waterways and areas prone to flooding.

4.2 Ensure that ASTs have impervious impoundments with a storage capacity of 110% that of the largest storage tank.

4.3 Buried piping shall be protectively wrapped and/or coated to prevent corrosion, and periodically tested for structural integrity.

4.4 Routinely monitor and maintain ASTs to prevent leaks. Areas to inspect include tank foundation, connections, coatings, tanks walls, and piping systems.

4.5 All fuels and waste oils shall be managed to ensure safety in handling and the prevention of spills at the storage and operating site(s).

5.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

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

5.2 Install and maintain an **oil-water separator** on the storage facility, within **one (1) month of receipt of this permit**, through which all effluent must pass before the final discharge. The oil-water separator shall be installed by a licensed contractor.

5.3 Do not discharge effluent directly into receiving waters without prior treatment. Discharges from the oil water separator/s into the environment must 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:

- Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 100 mg/L;
- Oil and Grease < 10 mg/L; and
- Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH) < 40 mg/L.



- 5.4 The method and frequency of sampling the parameters above shall be determined by the Permit Holder, and monitored at a point after the oil-water separator but before the drainage system. Samples shall be analyzed by a certified laboratory and the results submitted to the EPA as a component of the Annual Report.
- 5.5 Maintain an interceptor drain, which must be adequately sloped to collect storm flow.

6.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE 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 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)]
- 6.3 All sound-making devices such as generators, shall be 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.
- 6.4 Exhaust stacks of the generator shall be at least 2 meters above the generator room, to minimise adverse fumes/soot impacts to contiguous areas.
- 6.5 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.
- 6.6 Implement a vapor recovery system for the offloading of bulk fuel, on site. Measures to reduce emissions during this activity include selection of alternate loading methods to effectively capture emissions and application of vapor recovery equipment.

7.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 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.
- 7.2 Utilise the best practicable means of handling, storing and disposing of all waste materials at all times.
- 7.3 Maintain a septic system on site at all times. The septic tank shall not be located within 1.5 m 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*.
- 7.4 Maintain good housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of your surroundings at all times.
- 7.5 Burning of garbage is **strictly prohibited** on site.

8.0 ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- 8.1 Provide adequate fire protection measures, such as, a smoke detection and alarm system, fire extinguishers, fire hydrants or sprinkler systems. Service firefighting equipment regularly and install them at conspicuous locations onsite in accordance with the Fire Services' Guidelines.
- 8.2 In an emergency, use the automatic switch to inactivate all pumps. Switches shall be readily accessible to the console attendant and be clearly marked 'Emergency Shut-off Switch'.
- 8.3 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 etc. at the site.
- 8.4 Submit to the Agency within **three (3) months** of receipt of the Permit, an **Emergency Preparedness Plan** 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

8.5 A sign clearly outlining spill clean-up procedures and emergency contact numbers should be prominently displayed at the Gas Station at all times.

8.6 Appropriate clean-up equipment such as spill trays, oil spill clean-up recover pump, sorbent pads, absorbent material shall be readily accessible to respond to any spills that may occur on site.

8.7 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.

9.0 FUEL, WASTE OIL AND HAZARDOUS WASTE/MATERIAL MANAGEMENT

9.1 Strictly adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000.**

9.2 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 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 oil stored.

9.3 Store any contaminated fuel in closed leak-proof containers and label "slop tanks" or 'waste fuel'.

9.4 Store all fuel waste above ground level in a bunded area to allow easy maintenance and leak detection.

9.5 Oil/fuel contaminated absorbent materials shall be appropriately stored and disposed of by double-wrapping them in heavy duty garbage bags. All contaminated absorbent materials shall be disposed of at an authorized Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility.

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

9.7 Refrain from draining fuel or lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from



equipment onto the ground or into waterways.

10.0 COMPLIANCE, MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 10.1 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).
- 10.2 Make all employees, and third parties under your direction, aware of the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation and provide training on good environmental practices. Submit the Annual training schedule in the Annual Report.
- 10.3 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.
- 10.4 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.
- 10.5 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).
- 10.6 Submit **Annual Reports** to the EPA on your compliance with this Permit on or before **March 31**, each year.
- 10.7 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-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.
- 10.8 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.

11.0 INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES/LIABILITIES

- 11.1 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.
- 11.2 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.
- 11.3 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.
- 11.4 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.
- 11.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 7.3 and 7.4 of this Environmental Permit (Renewed), pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 11.6 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.
- 11.7 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.
- 11.8 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.
- 11.9 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

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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.

- 11.10 The EPA reserves the right to conduct regular inspections of the Permit Holder's construction 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.
- 11.11 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.
- 11.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 11.13 **This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 11.14 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is effective for the period stipulated herein **(March, 2022 to February, 2027).**
- 11.15 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until, **February 28, 2027**, 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.
- 11.16 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 **August 31, 2026.**
- 11.17 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



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to any other rights of the Permit Holder in connection therewith.

- 11.18 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
Agency.


Kenraj Parsram
Executive Director


on behalf of the Environmental Protection

Date

2021. 11. 09

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	SINIKA RAMBARAN - LACRUEZ
DESIGNATION	HSE INSPECTOR
DATE	NOVEMBER 22, 2021
SIGNATURE	

