



## 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.:	20160318-GOCPS
Fee:	Medium (C1) - US\$2500 (5 years), i.e., US\$500 per year
Fee paid:	Medium (C1) - US\$2500 (July 2022 - June 2027)
Address:	The Guyana Oil Company Limited, 191, Camp Street. South Cummingsburg, Georgetown.
Activity:	Operation of a Service Station

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
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The Guyana Oil Company, trading and operating as GUYOIL Providence 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 Service Station located at Providence, East Bank Demerara, Guyana, hereinafter referred to as the "Project", in a manner indicated in the Application for Renewal of an Environmental Authorisation submitted on January 26, 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 Operation Permit, Reference No. 20160318-GOCPS, issued on January 5, 2018, which expired on June 30, 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 servant(s), 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;

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- 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 within **three (3) months** of receipt of the Permit, an **Emergency Response Plan (ERP)** 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.
- 1.3 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 Service Stations.
- 1.4 Adhere to the requirements of the **Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap. 99:01, Laws, of Guyana.**
- 1.5 Erect caution signs to warn against potential hazards or to caution against unsafe practices.
- 1.6 Adhere to the **Drainage & Irrigation Laws of Guyana. Cap.64:03.**
- 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 Maintain a sump below each fuel dispenser to capture any spillage that may occur.
- 1.9 Pipe entries under the pump sumps shall be sealed to prevent fuel leaks.
- 1.10 Pipelines from tanks to offset filling points, dispensing equipment and vent pipes located below the ground surface must not be located under buildings and shall be accessible for easy maintenance.
- 1.11 Maintain an impervious secondary containment wall around fuel storage tanks to create a temporary holding area in the event of accidental spillage.
- 1.11.1 The containment wall for the area with the solitary tank shall have the capacity

to provide 110% containment of each fuel tank.

- 1.12 All secondary containment shall remain sealed and all piping must enter or exit the containment over the wall. Secondary containment shall provide total containment, and no part of the tank infrastructure (e.g., dispenser, filling hoses and valves) shall protrude outside of the containment.
- 1.13 Maintenance and/or repair of fittings, pipes and hoses shall be in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. A summarised inspection report shall be kept and submitted to the EPA upon request.
- 1.14 Maintain an impervious drainage system around the fuel dispensers. The drain shall be at least 2 meters from the dispensers and lead to the oil-water separator.
- 1.15 An electronic shut down system shall be installed as a 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.
- 1.16 The safe fill level shall be clearly identified on the gauge and set at 90% to prevent overfilling. In the event of overfilling, all discharges shall be released into the secondary containment.
- 1.17 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'.
- 1.18 The Service Station shall be provided with adequate fire prevention and control equipment in accordance with the Guyana Fire Service approval. All firefighting equipment shall be regularly serviced and placed at visible and accessible locations onsite.
- 1.19 Install a minimum of three (3) groundwater monitoring wells around the storage facility within six (6) months of receipt of this Permit. The groundwater monitoring wells shall be inspected to assess any protentional leaks and impacts to groundwater.
- 1.20 Submit a groundwater monitoring plan including location and design of wells for review and approval by the Agency within **three (3) months** of receipt of the Permit.
- 1.21 The groundwater monitoring wells shall be installed by a licensed well driller company.
- 1.22 Forecourt:

  
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#### 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 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. 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. Direct uncontaminated rainwater away from the canopy and other roofed areas into storm water drains.

### 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 1.15.
- 2.2 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.
- 2.3 Underground storage tanks shall be double walled.
- 2.4 Submit an Underground Storage Tank Decommissioning Plan to the EPA for approval at least **fourteen (14) days** prior to closure of USTs.
  - 2.4.1 Temporary or permanent closure of USTs shall be conducted in accordance with the Decommissioning Plan approved by the EPA.

### 3.0 ABOVE-GROUND STORAGE TANKS (ASTs)

- 3.1 ASTs shall be located in impervious bunds to reduce the risk of groundwater and land contamination. Bund walls shall be used to divert storm-water away from storage areas.

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- 3.2 Storage areas shall be located at least 100 meters away from waterways and areas prone to flooding.
- 3.3 Buried piping shall be protectively wrapped and/or coated to prevent corrosion, and periodically tested for structural integrity.
- 3.4 Routinely monitor and maintain ASTs to prevent leaks. Areas to inspect include tank foundation, connections, coatings, tanks walls, and piping systems.
- 3.5 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).

#### **4.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT**

- 4.1 Strictly adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000**.
- 4.2 Maintain an oil-water separator through which all effluent must pass before the final discharge.
- 4.3 Do not discharge effluent directly into receiving waters without prior treatment. Discharges from the oil-water separator 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.

Monitor the parameters above on an **annual** basis. Samples shall be taken from 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.

- 4.4 Maintain an interceptor drain, which must be adequately sloped to collect storm flow.

#### **5.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT**

- 5.1 Strictly adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations 2000** and the **Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000**.
- 5.2 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.

- 5.3 Promptly monitor any malfunction or breakdown leading to abnormal emissions. Adjust process until normal operations can be restored.
- 5.4 Comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment*. Sound levels from noise-making devices shall not exceed the limits below, at a distance of 15 metres (50ft) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.

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

- 5.5 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.
- 5.6 Exhaust stacks of the generator(s) shall be at least **two (2) meters** above the generator room or the tallest building nearby, to minimise adverse fumes/soot impacts to the contiguous areas.
- 5.7 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.
- 5.8 Implement a vapor recovery system for the off-loading of bulk fuel on site. Measures to reduce loading/off-loading emissions shall include selection of alternate loading methods and application of vapor recovery equipment.

## **6.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT**

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 Prepare and submit to the Agency best practices relating to the labelling, collecting and storing of waste oils and used batteries, any other hazardous waste on site.
- 6.3 Submit the proposed disposal method for hazardous waste to be approved by the Agency **by August 31, 2022**.
- 6.4 Utilise the best practicable means of handling, storing and disposing of all waste materials at all times.
- 6.5 Maintain a septic tank system on site. The septic tank shall not be located within 1.5 meter 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*.

6.6 Maintain good housekeeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of your surroundings at all times.

6.7 Burning of garbage is **strictly prohibited**.

**7.0 FUEL, WASTE OIL AND HAZARDOUS WASTE/ MATERIAL MANAGEMENT**

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

7.2 Establish and maintain a register of hazardous materials or chemicals used or generated by your operation.

7.3 Prepare and submit to the Agency within the Annual Report, as required in Condition 8.5, the following:

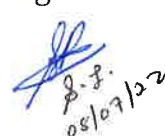
- i. The identification information of the facility;
- ii. Type and quantities of hazardous waste generated;
- iii. Data concerning off-site shipments of waste;
- iv. Any applied treatment standards;
- v. A summary of any accidents that may have occurred and any action taken;
- vi. Any waste minimization efforts undertaken by the generator;
- vii. A pollution prevention plan for the facility; and
- viii. Any other matter the Agency may require.

The Agency considers all materials listed in Schedule I and II of the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Wastes Management) Regulations 2000, to be hazardous. Please see attached list of Hazardous Wastes to be controlled.

7.4 Keep on site, books, documents, records or things showing, as the case may be:

- i. The number of hazardous wastes generated, stored, treated, transported or disposed of;
- ii. The dates pertinent to the activities referred to above;
- iii. Signed copies of manifests;
- iv. Records of test results, waste analyses, permit and standard conditions required by any authorisation; and
- v. Any information as the Agency may require.

7.5 In the event that waste oil (recovered from oil-water separator or from servicing of

  
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generators) is stored on site, it shall be stored in a covered, bunded area to minimize adverse impacts to the environment in the event of a spillage. The bunded area shall be clearly labeled and have the capacity to provide 110% containment of the total volume of waste oils stored.

- 7.6 Store any contaminated fuel in closed leak proof containers and label "slop tanks" or 'waste fuel'.
- 7.7 Store all fuel waste above ground level in a bunded area to allow easy maintenance and leak detection.
- 7.8 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.
- 7.9 A clear sign outlining spill clean-up procedures and emergency contact numbers shall be prominently displayed at the Service Station at all times.
- 7.10 Store all fuel away from ignition sources and have '**No Smoking**' signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 7.11 Maintain a supply of oil-absorbent materials such as absorbent pads, sand, etc., at the site for the clean-up of spills.
- 7.12 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.
- 7.13 Refrain from draining fuel/lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways.
- 7.14 Ensure all pumps, pipelines and fuel storage tanks are inspected regularly for leak detection.
- 7.15 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.

## **8.0 COMPLIANCE, MONITORING AND REPORTING**

- 8.1 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

  
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threaten to cause severe environmental damage as well as harm to human health or livelihood).

- 8.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 8.3 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.
- 8.4 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.
- 8.5 Submit **Annual Reports** to the EPA on your compliance with this Permit on or before **March 31**, each year.
- 8.6 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.
- 8.7 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).
- 8.8 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.
- 9.0 INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY \LIABILITIES**
  - 9.1 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.
  - 9.2 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any serious environmental harm caused by

**Environmental Permit (Renewed) Ref. No. 20160318-GOCPS**

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polluting the environment, pursuant to s. 39 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

- 9.3 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.
- 9.4 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.
- 9.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 11.3 and 11.4 of this Environmental Permit (Renewed), pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 9.6 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.
- 9.7 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.
- 9.8 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.
- 9.9 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.
- 9.10 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)

  
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Regulations, 2000.

- 9.11 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.
- 9.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 9.13 **This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 9.14 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is effective for the period stipulated herein, **(July, 2022 to June, 2027).**
- 9.15 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until **June 30, 2027**, 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.
- 9.16 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 **December 31, 2026.**
- 9.17 Any late submission of the application required by Condition 10.14 beyond the date specified therein, the agency may require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to the application fee, a late penalty fee (accruing at the time such obligation was first owed for renewal) at a rate of two thousand dollars (GY\$2,000.00) per day for every business day late, until such application is submitted to the Agency, without prejudice to any other rights of the Permit Holder in connection therewith.
- 9.18 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.

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Signed by *Sharifah Lazack* on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency. **Kemraj Parsram**  
**Executive Director**

Date 2022.06.14

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.

NAME	SINIKA RAMBAPAN - LA CRUEZ
DESIGNATION	HSET
SIGNATURE	<i>S. La Cruz</i>
DATE	July 08, 2022



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