



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

Ganges Street, Sophia,
Georgetown, GUYANA
Tel.: (592) 225-0506
Fax: (592) 225-5481
Email: epa@epaguyana.org
Website: <http://www.epaguyana.org>

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.:	20150715-BDIHA
Fee:	Small (C2) - US\$175 per year
Fees Paid:	US\$ 875 - Five (5) Years (July 2023 to June 2028)
Addressee(s):	Ms. Kavorn Kyte-Williams Company Secretary/ Corporate Legal Officer Thirst Park Ruimveldt Georgetown
Activity:	Operation of a Fuel Storage Facility and Maintenance Workshop

Banks DIH Limited, 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, for the operation of a Fuel Storage Facility and Maintenance Workshop located Lot 16-18, Main and New Street, New Amsterdam, Berbice, hereinafter referred to as the “Project”, in the manner indicated in the Application for Renewal of an Environmental Authorisation submitted on April 11, 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, best practices, guidelines, and standards relevant to this project.

This is a Renewal of the Environmental Permit, Reference No. 20150715-BDIHA issued on April 05, 2016, and expired on March 31, 2021. The Environmental Permit (Renewed) is issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection (Authorisation) Regulations, 2000.

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


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1. 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. effect any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.
- 1.2 Submit to the EPA **before October 30, 2023**, an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) for approval. This Plan must be communicated to the 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 Guyana Fire Service Approval shall be maintained annually and submitted as a component of the Annual Report.
- 1.3.1 The Project shall maintain fire prevention and control equipment in accordance with the Guyana Fire Service Approval.
- 1.4 Develop, maintain, and implement an appropriate Operation and Maintenance Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) for the Project. The SOP shall address all aspects of the ongoing fuel storage facility and its operation including but not limited to:
- i. maintenance and inspection schedules;
 - ii. monitoring/investigation procedures;
 - iii. emergency response plan;
 - iv. evacuation plan;
 - v. management of waste oil;
 - vi. fuel transfer operations; and
 - vii. training of staff on the SOPs.
- 1.4.1 The SOP shall be submitted to the EPA upon request.

- 1.5 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.
- 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 the Environmental Authorisation and provide training on good environmental practices. Prepare and maintain a training file for employees which shall be submitted to the EPA upon request.
- 1.8 Strictly adhere to the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap. 99:01, Laws of Guyana.
- 1.9 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 authorized.
- 1.10 Construct and maintain perimeter drains which shall be adequately sloped to collect storm flow by **October 30, 2023**.

2.0 OPERATION OF WORKSHOP

- 2.1 Servicing, maintenance, and storage of heavy-duty equipment shall be conducted within the confines of the workshop and on an impervious base.
- 2.2 Contaminated wastewater from greasy hands and equipment cleaning shall be routed through the oil-water separator before discharge into the environment.
- 2.3 A drip pan shall be utilised to capture waste oil spills during servicing and maintenance activities.
- 2.4 Engine oil, grease, lubricants and other chemicals used at the Project shall be stored in accordance with the Safety Data Sheets (SDS). SDS shall be readily available and easily accessible.
- 2.5 Flammable materials shall be stored away from ignition sources. **'No Smoking'** signs shall be posted where such materials are handled and stored.
- 2.6 Oil-contaminated waste from servicing and maintenance activities such as rags, filters, etc. shall be collected and treated at an EPA Authorised Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility prior to disposal at an EPA approved waste disposal facility.


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3.0 FUEL HANDLING AND STORAGE

- 3.1 Adopt and comply with the National Standard “*Guidance for the Design, Construction, Modification, and Maintenance of Petrol Filling Stations*” and any forthcoming code of practice/guidelines pertaining to the operation of fuel storage.
- 3.2 A register of the type and quantities of fuel and associated hazardous materials stored onsite shall be established and maintained. A summary of the registered information shall be submitted to the Agency as a component of the Annual Report.
- 3.3 A leak detection system shall be in place for all storage fuel tanks. At least two (2) of the following measures should be installed:
- i. Overflow alarms on tanks;
 - ii. Gauging system;
 - iii. Dipstick measurements;
 - iv. Sensors on walls of tanks; or
 - v. Electric shut-down buttons
- 3.4 Dispensing equipment shall be fitted with automatic shut-off valves to prevent spills.
- 3.5 Install and maintain a sump under any type of dispenser to capture losses.
- 3.6 Pipe entries under the pump sumps shall be sealed to prevent fuel leakage into ground and surface water.
- 3.7 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.
- 3.8 Fuel storage tank and pipeline layout shall minimize the need for bends, joints, and underground pipelines. Where underground piping is required, double-contained systems shall be installed for new pipelines. All pipe work shall be constructed using galvanized steel or flexible metallic connectors that are corrosion-resistant.
- 3.9 Maintenance and/or repair of fittings, pipes, and hoses shall be conducted in accordance with the manufacturer’s specifications.

5.0 UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS (USTs)

- 5.1 The Permit Holder shall ensure all metallic components (such as tanks, piping, and joints) in contact with soil has corrosion protection. Tanks shall be placed in an inert material first, e.g., sand.

- 5.2 Protective wrapping and/or coats must be continuously applied to buried piping to prevent corrosion, and periodically tested for structural integrity.
- 5.3 The Permit Holder shall submit an Underground Storage Tank Decommissioning Plan to the EPA for approval at least fourteen (14) days prior to closure of USTs.
 - 5.3.1 Temporary or permanent closure of USTs shall be conducted in accordance with the Decommissioning Plan approved by the Agency.

6.0 GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELL

- 6.1 The permit holder shall install and maintain **a minimum of three (3) groundwater monitoring wells** around the gas station within **six (6) months** of receipt of this permit. The groundwater monitoring wells shall be inspected to assess any potential leaks and impacts to groundwater. 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 **before October 30, 2023**.

7.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 Strictly adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000**.
- 7.2 Discharge of untreated wastewater into the surrounding environment is **strictly prohibited**.
- 7.3 The Permit Holder shall maintain an oil-water separator at the storage facility, through which all effluent must pass before the final discharge. The oil-water separator shall be installed by a licensed contractor.
- 7.4 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 not be exceeded:
 - i. Oil and Grease < 20 mg/L;
 - ii. Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 100 mg/L; and
 - iii. Total Dissolved Solid (TDS) < 40 mg/L.
- 7.5 The Permit Holder shall monitor the parameters above on an annual basis and submit the results to the Agency as a component of the Annual Report. 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.

8.0 AIR QUALITY AND NOISE MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 The Permit Holder shall strictly adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations 2000** and the **Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations, 2000**.
- 8.2 The Permit Holder shall 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.
- 8.3 The Permit Holder shall promptly monitor any malfunction or breakdown leading to abnormal emissions. Adjust process until normal operations can be restored.
- 8.4 The Permit Holder shall 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)

- 8.5 The Permit Holder shall 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.
- 8.6 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.
- 8.7 The Permit Holder shall 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.

9.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 9.1 In accordance to the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations, 2013**, the Permit Holder shall 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.
- 9.2 The Permit Holder shall utilise the best practicable means of handling, storing and disposing of all waste materials at all times.

9.3 The Permit Holder shall 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*.

9.4 Burning of waste is **strictly prohibited**.

10.0 FUEL, WASTE OIL AND HAZARDOUS WASTE/MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

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

10.2 The Permit Holder shall maintain a supply of oil-absorbent materials such as absorbent pads, sand, etc., at the site for the clean-up of spills.

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

10.4 The Permit Holder shall store any contaminated fuel in closed leak proof containers and label "**slop tanks**" or '**waste fuel**'.

10.5 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.

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

10.7 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.

10.8 The Permit Holder shall refrain from draining fuel/lubricants including waste oils of any quantity from equipment onto the ground or into waterways.

10.9 The Permit Holder shall ensure all pumps, pipelines and fuel storage tanks are inspected regularly for leak detection.


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11.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 11.1 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).
- 11.2 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 11.8.
- 11.3 Discharges 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.
- 11.4 The Permit Holder shall monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by your employees and all third parties under your direction.
- 11.5 The Permit Holder shall 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.
- 11.6 The Permit Holder shall 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.
- 11.7 The Permit Holder shall 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).
- 11.8 Submit **Annual Reports** to the EPA on your compliance with this Permit on or before **March 31**, each year.
- 11.9 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with this Environmental Permit (Renewed):
 - i. **Within twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit (Renewed) 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 Authorisation 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.
- 11.10 The Permit Holder shall comply with any lawful directions given by the Agency from time-to-time in furtherance of the implementation of any international or other obligation for the environmental protection of Guyana.
- 12.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/ LIABILITIES**
- 12.1 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.
- 12.2 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.
- 12.3 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.
- 12.4 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.
- 12.5 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.
- 12.6 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.


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Environmental Permit (Renewed) Ref. No.: 20150715-BDIHA

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- 12.7 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.
- 12.8 Should the Permit Holder contravene or be likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency may serve on him an Enforcement Notice in accordance with Section 26 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 12.9 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 Agency 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.
- 12.10 The Agency 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.
- 12.11 The Permit Holder, His Servants, and/or Agents shall at all times, allow entry to the permitted facility to any Officer designated by the Agency 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.
- 12.12 The Agency has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 12.13 **This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 12.14 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is effective for the period stipulated herein **(July 2023 – June 2028)**.
- 12.15 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until **June 30, 2028**, 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.



- 12.16 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 **December 31, 2027**.
- 12.17 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.
- 12.18 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  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.
Kemraj Parsram
Executive Director

Date 2023-07-10

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

Environmental Permit (Renewed) Ref. No.: 20150715-BDIHA

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NAME:	AFESTIA BURKE for Mrs. Kavonne Kyte-williams corporate Secretary / Corporate Legal Officer
SIGNATURE:	 for Mrs. Kavonne Kyte-williams
DESIGNATION:	ENVIRONMENT & SAFETY EXECUTIVE
DATE:	15-08-2023

