



**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.:	20130522-RGSBO
Fee:	Small (C2) - US\$875 (5 years), i.e. S\$175 per year
Fee paid:	US\$875: Five (5) Years (September 2023 – August 2028)
Address:	Ramdarie Proprietor Ramdarie and Sons Gas Station Lot 19, Three Friends Essequibo Coast Region #2
Activity:	Operation of a Gas Station

Ramdarie, trading and operating under the name Ramdarie and Sons Gas Station hereinafter referred to as the “Permit Holder”, is hereby authorised by the Environmental Protection Agency, hereinafter referred to as the “Agency”, in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, Cap.20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, to operate a Gas Station located at Lot 24-25, Land of Plenty, Essequibo Coast, Region #2, hereinafter referred to as the “Project,” in a manner indicated in the Application Form for Renewal of an Environmental Authorisation submitted on June 06, 2023, 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 Operation Permit (Renewed), Reference No.: 20130522-RGSBO, issued on June 24, 2021, which expired on April 30, 2023.

Terms and Conditions for the operation to be adhered to by the Permit

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Holders, his servant(s), agent(s), and/or sub-contractor(s):

OPERATION

- 1.1 The Permit Holder shall comply with any lawful directives given by the Agency from time-to-time, including directives in furtherance of the implementation of any international or other obligation for the environmental protection of Guyana.
- 1.2 The Permit Holder shall notify the Agency in writing and obtain its approval for **ANY** proposed changes to the operation at least **twenty-one (21) calendar days** prior to making the change. The notification shall contain a description of the proposed change in operation. It is not necessary to make such a notification if an application to vary this permit has been made and the application contains a description of the proposed change. In this condition 'change in operation' means a change in the nature or functioning of the facility, or an extension, or any additional installation, which may have consequences for the environment. Changes to operation may include but not be limited to the following:

- i. changes in the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and all associated buildings;
- ii. changes of equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanisms, systems or technology serving the facility;
- iii. changes in the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents; or
- iv. any other change outlined in 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.

- 1.3 The Permit Holder shall adopt and comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standard (GNBS) "*Guidance for the Design, Construction, Modification, and Maintenance of Petrol Filling Stations*" and any forthcoming code of practice/guidelines pertaining to the operation of the Service Stations.

- 1.4 The Permit Holder shall adhere to the requirements of the **Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap. 99:01**, Laws, of Guyana.

- 1.5 The Permit Holder shall maintain a sump below each fuel dispenser to capture any spillage that may occur.

- 1.6 The Permit Holder shall ensure that pipe entries under the pump sumps remain sealed to prevent fuel leaks.

- 1.7 Pipelines from tanks to offset filling points, dispensing equipment and vent pipes located below the ground surface shall not be located under buildings and shall be accessible for easy maintenance.

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1.8 The Permit Holder shall 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 Agency upon request.

1.9 Obtain and maintain Guyana Fire Service approval and submit a copy of that approval to the Agency within the first quarter of every calendar year.

1.9.1 Fire prevention and control equipment shall be maintained in accordance with this Approval.

1.10 Forecourt: Refueling and Fuel Delivery Area

1.10.1 Fuel deliveries shall be supervised and must be conducted within the forecourt containment area, or in an area with separate bunding.

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

1.10.3 Label all fuel storage tanks. Labels shall identify the type of fuel stored in the tank and the capacity of the tank.

1.11 Canopy

1.11.1 The Permit Holder shall maintain a canopy cover over the fuel dispensing area with an overhang of at least 10 degrees.

1.11.2 The Permit Holder shall direct uncontaminated rainwater away from roofed areas into stormwater drains.

2.0 UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS (USTs)

2.1 The Permit Holder shall maintain a functional leak and overfill protection system as required in Condition 7.5.

2.2 The Permit Holder shall submit an Underground Storage Tank (UST) Decommissioning Plan to the Agency for approval at least **fourteen (14) days** prior to the closure of UST/s.

2.3 The Permit Holder shall maintain corrosion protection for all metallic components (such as tanks, piping, and joints) in contact with soil and the inert material first, e.g., sand, that the tanks are placed in.

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.

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.

3.4 The Permit Holder shall 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).

3.6 The permit holder shall seal all holes in the bund wall by **September 30, 2023**.

3.7 The Permit Holder shall maintain an impervious secondary containment wall that must have the capacity to provide at least 110% containment around each fuel storage tank, creating a temporary holding area in the event of accidental spillage.

4.0 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

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

The Permit Holder shall construct an oil water separator **on or before November 30, 2023**. The construction shall be in keeping with the *Agency Environmental Guideline for the Construction and Operation of Oil-water Separators*.

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4.3 The Permit Holder shall ensure that the interceptor drain flow through the oil-water separator before its final discharge.

4.4 The Permit Holder shall avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils, and other petroleum products.

4.5 The Permit Holder shall 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) *Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment*. The following are the allowable limits for this type of project and shall not exceed:

- i. Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 100 mg/L;
 - ii. Oil and Grease < 10 mg/L; and
 - iii. Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH) <40 mg/L.
- 4.6 Monitor the parameters listed 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.

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 The Permit Holder shall handle and store liquid fuel in such a manner so as to prevent the emission of offensive odours.
- 5.3 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 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)]
- 5.4 All significant noise-producing equipment, such as generators, shall be equipped with silencers or mufflers and/or be enclosed in suitable acoustic enclosures to reduce noise levels impacting the surrounding environment and to achieve compliance with Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) requirements.
- 5.5 The 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.
- 5.6 The Permit Holder shall maintain the exhaust stacks at least **two (2) meters above** the tallest nearby building to minimise adverse fumes/soot impacts to the contiguous areas.
- 5.7 In the event of equipment malfunction or inefficiencies which may result in visible emissions into the air or, in the event of malfunctions leading to abnormal emissions, the operator shall:

- i. Investigate and undertake remedial action immediately;
- ii. Adjust the process or activity to minimize those emissions; and
- iii. Record the events and actions taken. This shall be submitted in the Annual Report.

6.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 In accordance with 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, and waste shall be collected and disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility.

- 6.2 The Permit Holder shall utilise the best practicable means of handling, storing, and disposing of all waste materials at all times.

- 6.3 The Permit Holder shall maintain a septic system on site at all times. The septic tank shall not be located within 1.5 meters of a building or property boundary, and shall be accessible for cleaning and de-sludging. Any modification to the septic tanks must be in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) "Code of Practice for the Design and Construction of Septic Tanks and Associated Secondary Treatment and Disposal Systems".

- 6.4 Burning of waste is **strictly prohibited**.

7.0 FUEL, WASTE OIL AND HAZARDOUS WASTE/ MATERIAL MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 The Permit Holder shall strictly adhere to the provisions of the **Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulation 2000**.
- 7.2 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.

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

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

- 7.5 Containers containing oil/fuel of any sort must always be covered and placed in a

bunded area that is able to contain 110% of the total capacity of that container.

- 7.6 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 treated by an Agency approved Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility prior to disposal at an Agency approved location.
- 7.7 The bunded area shall be clearly labelled and have the capacity to provide 110% containment of the total volume of waste oils stored.
- 7.8 Store all fuel away from ignition sources and have “**No Smoking**” signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 7.9 Fuel/lubricants including waste oils shall not be drained from the equipment onto the ground or into waterways.
- 7.10 All hazardous wastes shall be stored in containers appropriate for the waste stream.
- 7.11 All hazardous waste shall be treated by an Agency authorised Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility prior to being disposed of by an Agency authorised Waste Disposal Facility. All hazardous waste treatment and disposal shall be documented on a Waste Manifest Form which shall be submitted to the Agency as a component of the Annual Report.
- 7.12 Appropriate /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 treated by an Agency approved Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility prior to disposal at an Agency approved location.

7.0 SPILLS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 The Permit Holder shall notify the Environmental Protection Agency **within one (1) hour** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies (e.g., oil spills, hazardous materials/wastes spills, sudden onset disaster, natural, technological or human-induced factors that cause or threaten to cause severe environmental damage as well as harm to human health or livelihood).
- 7.2 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.
- 7.3 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 (a total of five days after the discharge of the contaminants).

7.4 The Permit Holder shall establish procedures for analysing accidents and failures to determine the causes of the failure and minimize the possibility of a recurrence. This information shall be made available to the Agency upon request.

7.5 An electronic shutdown system shall be maintained as a primary leak detection mechanism, along with any one or more of the following leak detection mechanisms:

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

7.6 The Permit Holder shall install an emergency switch on all pumps using the automatic pump shut-off. Switches shall be readily accessible to the console attendant and be clearly marked "**Emergency Shut-off Switch**".

7.7 The Permit Holder shall provide a fully equipped first aid kit at all primary work sites and ensure that functional communication and transportation systems are in place to respond to emergencies.

7.8 The Permit Holder shall establish and maintain an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) for the entire facility, inclusive of the pipeline system **by November 30, 2023**. The ERP shall contain, but may not be restricted to the following:

- i. Spill detection and mitigation procedures;
- ii. Escape, evacuation, and rescue plan and assessment;
- iii. A list of responsible parties and duties;
- iv. A list of regulatory agencies to be notified;
- v. Names and addresses of response organizations;
- vi. Training procedures;
- vii. A list of equipment to be utilized;
- viii. Testing procedures to ensure that the equipment to be used remain in working condition; and
- ix. Clean up and hazardous waste disposal procedures.

8.0 COMPLIANCE, MONITORING, AND REPORTING

8.1 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.

- 8.2 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.
- 8.3 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.
- 8.4 The Permit Holder shall submit an **Annual Report** to the Agency containing the information required under this Environmental Permit on or before **March 31, each year**.
- 8.5 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, radiation, heat or combination of any of them).
- 8.6 The Permit Holder shall report to the Agency any non-compliance with the Environmental Permit (Renewed & Varied):
- I. Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit 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.

9.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 9.1 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.
- 9.2 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

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taken to prevent or minimize any resulting adverse effect, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

9.3 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.

9.4 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 9.2 and 9.3 of 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 restore and rehabilitate the environment.

9.6 The Permit Holder shall bear the cost of all investigations into pollution incidents, conducted at the instance of Agency.

9.7 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.

9.8 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.

9.9 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.

9.10 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.

9.11 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.

- 9.12 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.
- 9.13 The Agency has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 9.14 **This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.**
- 9.15 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) is effective for the period stipulated herein **(September 2023 – August 2028).**
- 9.16 This Environmental Permit (Renewed) shall remain valid until **August 31, 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.
- 9.17 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 **February 29, 2028.**
- 9.18 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.
- 9.19 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 *[Signature]* on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.



Date: 2023.10.06

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

NAME	DESIGNATION	DATE	SIGNATURE
<i>Ramkumar</i>	<i>OWNER</i>	<i>19/10/2023</i>	<i>Ramkumar</i>

