



Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana
Environmental Protection Agency



August 11, 2020

Ref. No. 20191213-DCGCE

Mr. Suresh Narine
Executive Chairman
Grand Canal Industrial Estates Inc. (GCIE)
234 Lance Gibbs & Irving Streets
Queenstown,
Georgetown



Dear Mr. Narine,

Re: Construction Permit for Renovation of Unpaved Access Road and Reconstruction of two (2) Bridges

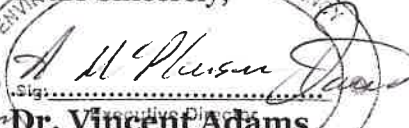
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has prepared a Construction Permit for the Renovation of Unpaved Access Road and Reconstruction of two Bridges located at Bramfield, Corentyne, Berbice.

Please sign the Construction Permit to indicate your acceptance of its terms and conditions and agreement to comply with the statutory requirements of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisation) Regulations 2000.

Further, the Agency advises that it is currently in the process of re-evaluating Permit Fees; as such, Permit Fees will be subjected to an increase. The cost for your Operation Permit **at this time** is USD\$1,000 for two (2) years i.e. \$500 for one (1) year. Payment of this fee, or its equivalent in Guyana dollars, using the Citizens Bank (Guyana) Inc. daily exchange rate, should be made the Environmental Protection Agency in United States Dollars Cash, Manager's Cheque, Personal Cheque in Guyana dollars or wire transfer. Please note personal cheques in US\$ will NOT be accepted. As per the aforementioned fee re-evaluation, please note that the US\$1,000 fee constitutes only a partial amount of the expected revised fee.

Should you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact Mr. Elon Sooknanan, Head of Infrastructure and Projects Department, on telephone number 225-5471 (Ext. 1216) or email esooknanan@epaguyana.org.

Yours Sincerely,


Dr. Vincent Adams
Executive Director



Attach. Guidelines for the preparation of Environmental Annual Reports

Ganges St., Sophia, Georgetown, GUYANA.

Tel: (592) 225-5467/5471-5472/6044/6048 | Fax: 225-5481



epa@epaguyana.org



www.epaguyana.org



Environmental Protection Agency - Guyana

"The Environment is Everybody's Business"



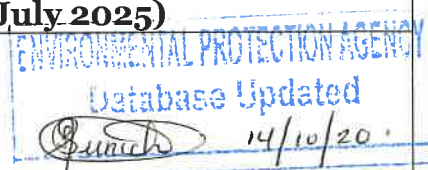
**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

Ganges Street, Sophia,
Georgetown, GUYANA
Tel.: (592)-225-5467-9
Fax: (592)- 225-5481
Email: epa@epaguyana.org
Website: <http://www.epaguyana.org>

Operation Permit

Issued under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

Reference No.:	20191213-DCGCE
Fees	Large (C2) – US\$2000 for one (1) year
Fees Paid:	USD \$10,000 for five years (August 2020-July 2025)
Addressee(s):	Suresh Narine Grand Canal Industrial Estate Inc. (GCIE) 234, Lance Gibbs & Irving Streets Queenstown Georgetown.
Activity:	Dredging of a segment of the existing Berbice River Channel, an Access Channel and a Berthing Basin/Manoeuvring Area alongside Wharf Platform



Suresh Narine operating as Grand Canal Industrial Estate Inc. (GCIE), hereinafter referred to as the "Permit Holder", is hereby authorised in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005 and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, to Dredge of a segment of the existing Berbice River Channel, an Access Channel and a Berthing Basin/manoeuvring area alongside wharf platform located at the mouth of the Berbice River, hereinafter referred to as the "Project" in a manner indicated in the Application submitted on December 13, 2019 and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05 and in any forthcoming regulations made under the said Act and/or any other applicable laws, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

This Operation Permit is issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.

Terms and Conditions for Operation to be adhered to by the Permit Holder:

1.0 INFRASTRUCTURE

- 1.1 Notify the Agency in writing of any proposed changes to the operation **at least fourteen (14) 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

Handwritten signatures and initials.

nature or functioning, or an extension, or any additional installation, which may have consequences for the environment. Changes to operation may include but not limited to the following:

- Installation of new and/or changes to equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system or technology serving the operation.
- 1.2 Ensure the provision, maintenance and removal of all completed works, all barriers, equipment/material staging areas, and all support infrastructure, facilities and equipment associated with the Project.
 - 1.3 Provide adequate fire protection measures, in accordance with guidelines established by the Guyana Fire Service and/or other international guidelines where applicable.
 - 1.4 Submit to the EPA prior to the commencement of Dredging Operations, details on the Dredging schedule and activities, power input, and maintenance of ancillary dredge equipment, including the drag-head, the on-board and submerged pump, etc. of the Dredge equipment.

2.0 NOISE AND AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 2.1 Comply with *Guyana National Bureau of Standards Guidelines for the Measurement and Assessment of Noise into the Environment* for all onshore and near shore operations, and for all offshore operations, where practical:
 - Industrial Limits: **100 dB** (Daytime Limits (06:00 h-18:00 h))
80 dB (Nighttime Limits (18:00 h- 06:00 h))
- 2.2 Ensure that all sound-making devices such as generators, machines, etc., are suitably equipped with silencers or mufflers to reduce noise emission levels and are placed on foundations properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations. Additionally, ensure that adequate equipment maintenance is provided and obsolete tools and equipment are replaced.
- 2.3 Operate all mechanical equipment in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. Additionally, ensure that mechanical equipment, vehicles and vessels, utilised during the dredging operation, are regularly maintained and operated at their optimal levels to minimise atmospheric emissions.
- 2.4 Comply with the *World Health Organisation (WHO) Air Quality Guidelines for Particulate Matter in the Environment*, not exceeding the limits below:

PM_{2.5}: 10 µg/m³ annual mean
25 µg/m³ 24-hour mean

PM₁₀: 20 µg/m³ annual mean
50 µg/m³ 24-hour mean

- 2.5 Comply with the *World Health Organisation (WHO) Air Quality Guidelines for Air pollutants in the Environment*, not exceeding the limits below, and not limited to the list of pollutants:
- CO - 9 ppm (8h)
 - H₂S - 10ppm (8h)
 - NO₂ - 0.1ppm
 - VOC - 100 ppm

3.0 EMPLOYEES SAFETY AND HEALTH

- 3.1 Operate in accordance with the **Occupational Safety and Health Act, No. 32 of 1997, Laws of Guyana.**
- 3.2 Ensure that First Aid Kits and Spill Containment Kits are kept onsite and accessible.
- 3.3 Ensure that workers, at all times, wear Personal Protective Equipment such as protective headwear, safety boots, appropriate dusk mask etc. throughout the operation phase, relevant to their activity at the processing plant.
- 3.4 Ensure that adequate rest areas, waste disposal and sanitary facilities are provided at the site for workers.
- 3.5 Ensure training is conducted for all employees in the areas of Occupational Safety and Health, First Aid Response, Emergency Response and Fire Fighting.
- 3.6 Employees should not work shifts in excess of eight (8) hours to reduce fatigue and risks of accidents/injuries onsite.
- 3.7 Construct temporary accommodation to shelter employees from the elements and comply with minimum space standards per worker.
- 3.8 Eye wash fountains and emergency showers should be installed for emergency use.

4.0 SOIL AND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Comply with the Environmental Protection (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.

- 4.2 Take necessary precautions to avoid soil compaction, erosion, siltation and sedimentation during dredging by limiting activities to the site approved for operation.
- 4.3 Ensure that the disposal of dredge waste is done in such a manner to localize seafloor smothering, turbidity impacts and oxygen depletion in surface sediments.
- 4.4 Adhere to all operational controls regarding equipment storage, use and maintenance offshore and waste discharge.
- 4.5 Not discharge waste water effluent directly into receiving waters without prior treatment. A silt trap should be installed on site mainly to collect runoff to be discharged into external drains.
- 4.6 Avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils and other petroleum products. Store all oils and fuel in a designated area, 10 m away from watercourses on an impervious base to minimise adverse impacts to the environment in the event of spillage.

5.0 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Prepare and submit to the Agency no later than **forty-five (45) days** after the end of the operating year, a report on the activities for the previous year.

The report shall include:

- The identification information of the project.
- Type and quantities of hazardous waste generated.
- Data concerning off-site shipments of waste.
- Any applied treatment standards.
- A summary of any accidents that may have occurred and any action taken.
- Any waste minimisation efforts undertaken by the generator.
- A pollution prevention plan for the project.
- Any other matter the Agency may require.

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

- 5.2 Submit the report of activities for the previous year in electronic format acceptable to the Agency along with a hard copy which should be signed by the holder of the Authorisation.

- 5.3 Prepare and submit to the Agency an Emergency Preparedness Plan, within **two (2) months** from the date of the issuance of this Permit, for approval.

The plan shall include:

- Accident prevention procedures.
 - First person response procedures.
 - Notification procedures.
 - Location of clean-up equipment.
 - Analysis of potential accident and responses.
 - Material Safety Data Sheets for all materials which could be spilled.
- 5.4 Keep on site books, documents, records or things showing, as the case may be:
- The amount of hazardous wastes generated stored, treated, transported or disposed of.
 - The dates pertinent to the activities referred to above.
 - Signed copies of manifests.
 - Records of test results, waste analyses, Permit and standard conditions required by any authorisation.
 - And any information as the Agency may require.
- 5.5 Ensure the project site is kept clear, free of all debris, solid waste and other extraneous matter.
- 5.6 Where appropriate, disposal vessels should be equipped with accurate positioning systems. Promote waste minimisation and the reuse and/or recycling of waste materials and other suitable materials where practical.
- 5.7 Disposal vessels and operations should be inspected regularly to ensure compliance with the conditions of the disposal permit and that the crew members are aware of their responsibilities under the permit.
- 5.8 Ensure that sewage is not discharged within the project site. All employees should use onshore facilities that are managed as required by the EPA.
- 5.9 Collect and transfer solid waste/garbage from the dredge operations for onshore disposal at an approved landfill site.
- 5.10 Ensure fuel, oils and chemicals are properly secured and contained in areas onshore. Limit quantities of chemicals stored to a minimum level required for operational processes. Minimise the frequency of chemical transfers and loading activities.

- 5.11 Contain and return spent oils, lubes and chemicals to shore for disposal in a manner approved by the EPA. Disposal of waste oils and chemicals overboard, or in any waterway, is prohibited.
- 5.12 Clean up potential oil and chemical spills in accordance with a Spill Contingency Plan which must be submitted to the EPA for approval.
- 5.13 Maintain an emergency spill cleanup kit on site for response to potential spills.

6.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 6.1 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies.
- 6.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by employees and all other third parties under your direction.
- 6.3 Submit **monthly reports** to the EPA on the progress of the operation and compliance with the conditions under which this Permit was granted on or before **the last day of the reporting month**.
- 6.4 Immediately notify the EPA of any accidental release of contaminants or incidence of pollution into the environment. The Permit Holder shall provide the financial, equipment and technical capacity to adequately respond to any emergency that may occur on site and respond to any emergency immediately.
- 6.5 Make all employees/contractors aware of the Conditions of the Operation Permit and provide training on good environmental management practices.
- 6.6 Report to the Agency of non-compliance with the Permit:
 - (i) Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of Permit becomes aware of the non-compliance, the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.
 - (ii) Within **seventy-two (72) hours**, submit to the Agency a written report containing a description of the non-compliance, its cause and the period of non-compliance including exact dates and time.
 - (iii) Submit a report to the Agency indicating the reasons and the anticipated time it is expected to continue if the non-compliance has not been corrected.
- 6.7 Foster good corporate relations involving the Regional Council, Ministry of Public Infrastructure – Maritime Administrative Department, residents and other

stakeholders, where general information can be shared and major concerns or complaints resolved. Immediately inform the EPA of any conflicts with other stakeholders.

- 6.8 Submit Annual Reports to the EPA on the progress of the operation and compliance with the conditions under which this Permit was granted on or before **March 31** of each year. Please see attached reporting format.


7.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

- 7.1 The Permit Holder shall be strictly liable for any loss or damage to the environment through any act caused intentionally or recklessly, through the adverse effect of any discharge or release, or cause or permit the entry of pollution, contaminant in any amount, concentration or level in excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by any Operation Permit which are attributed to the Project, pursuant to s. 39 and s. 19 (1) and (2) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.2 The Permit holder shall be guilty of an offence in accordance with s. 39 (1), (2), (3) and (4) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, which attribute liability for causing material or serious environmental harm by polluting the environment intentionally or recklessly and with the knowledge that material and/or serious environmental harm will or might result. If found guilty of an offence the Permit Holder shall be liable to the penalties prescribed under the said Act.
- 7.3 The Permit Holder shall compensate any Party who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the attributed Project (See: s. 19 (3)(e) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.)
- 7.4 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.
- 7.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable of any gross negligence or wilful 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 or discharge, spill, contaminant fluids, oil or lubricants.
- 7.6 The Agency (EPA) shall notify the Permit Holder immediately of any written claim or notice sent by any Complainant seeking loss or damage for negligence as a result of

the Permit Holder's lack of due care and diligence.

- 7.7 Should the Permit Holder contravene or is likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency (EPA) may serve on him an Enforcement Notice in accordance with s. 26 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.8 Where it appears to the Agency that the Permit Holder is engaged in any activity that may pose serious threat to natural resources or serious pollution of the Environment or any damage to public health, issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice, which may order him to immediately cease the offending activity, in accordance with s. 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.9 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, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000, including civil penalties and injunctive relief.
- 7.10 The EPA reserves the right to conduct regular inspections of the Permit Holder's operation 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.
- 7.11 The EPA reserves the right to review/amend the conditions and fees attached to this Permit, which also includes the review and/or amendment of Permit Fees in consideration of any changes in fee structure as determined by the Agency for projects of this nature.
- 7.12 The Permit Holder 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 s.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.
- 7.13 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 7.14 The Permit Holder is obligated to ensure that the operation is permitted by other relevant authorities.

- 7.14 The Permit Holder is obligated to ensure that the operation is permitted by other relevant authorities.
- 7.15 This Operation Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein, **August 2020 to July 2025**.
- 7.16 This **Operation Permit** shall remain valid until **July 31, 2025** 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.
- 7.17 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 **January 31, 2025**
- 7.18 Any late submission of renewal application(s) after the specified date as stated above, shall 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 (GY\$2,000.00) per day** for every day late, until such renewal application is submitted to the Agency, without prejudice to any other rights of the Permit Holder in connection therewith.
- 7.19 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to civil penalties and/or injunctive reliefs prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, including under any existing and forthcoming regulations made under the said Act or any other applicable Laws of Guyana.

Signed by  on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.
Dr. Vincent Adams
Executive Director

Date: August 11, 2020

Operation Permit - Ref. No. 20191213-DCGCE
(Issued under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000)

I hereby accept the above terms and conditions upon which this Environmental Permit is granted and agree to abide by the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000, and any forthcoming regulations and standards made under this Act.

NAME:	TARACHANDRA KHELAWAN
DESIGNATION:	COUNTRY MANAGER
SIGNATURE:	T. Khelawani
DATE:	12/8/20



Handwritten signature

Kali -26.5

BNS # 3077675771 & BNS # 3077675775

Dated 27.06.2020

Dated 22.06.2020



PAID Environmental Protection Agency

2020 Ganges Street, Sophia, Georgetown Guyana.
Tel (592) 225-6048/44 225-5471/67 Fax: (592) 225-5481

Date. 12/08/2020

No. 18020

Received From: Grand Canal Industries Estate Inc

The Sum of: Ten Thousand United States Dollars \$ 10,000 USD

For: Operation Permit - August 2020 - July 2025

PAID
Cash ☐ Cheques ☒ Balance due
Amt. \$

[Signature]
Signature:

Kali -26.5

BNS # 3077675771

Dated - 22.06.2020



Environmental Protection Agency

Ganges Street, Sophia, Georgetown Guyana.
Tel (592) 225-6048/44 225-5471/67 Fax: (592) 225-5481
Industrial Estates

Date. 12/08/2020

No. 18021

Received From: Grand Canal Industries Inc

The Sum of: One thousand United States Dollars \$ 1000 USD

For: Construction Permit - August 2020 - July 2022

PAID
Cash ☐ Cheques ☒ Balance due
Amt. \$

[Signature]
Signature: