



**Environmental
Protection
Agency**

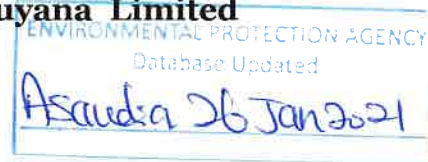
Ganges Street, Sophia,
Georgetown, GUYANA
Tel.: (592) 225-0506
Fax: (592) 225-5481
Email: epa@epaguyana.org
Website: <http://www.epaguyana.org>

Construction Permit

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.:	20200702-EEPGR
Fee:	Extra Large (C3) - US\$ 15,500 for five (5) years (i.e. US\$3,100 per year)
Fees Paid:	US\$ 15,500 five (5) years (January 2021 to December 2025)

Addressee: Mr. Alistair Routledge,
Country Manager
Esso Exploration and Production Guyana Limited
(EEPGL)
86 Duke Street
Kingston
Georgetown.



Activity: Construction of EEPGL Guyana Office Complex

Esso Exploration and Production Guyana Limited (EEPGL), herein referred to as the "Permit Holder", is hereby authorised in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, Laws of Guyana, Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, to construct EEPGL Guyana Office Complex at Plot #X1, Eugene F. Correia International Airport, Ogle, East Coast Demerara, Guyana, hereinafter referred to as "the Project", in the manner indicated in the Application submitted on July 2, 2020 and the Environmental Management Plan dated November 10, 2020, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein under the Environmental Protection Act, existing and/or forthcoming regulations made under the said Act, and/or any other applicable laws, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

Terms and Conditions for Construction to be adhered to by the Permit Holder, his Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractors:

1.0 INFRASTRUCTURE

- 1.1 Notify the Agency in writing of any proposed changes in the construction of the Office Complex at least **fourteen (14) days before** making the change. The notification shall contain a **description of the proposed change in construction**. It is not necessary to make such a notification if an **Application to vary** this permit has

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been made and the Application contains a description of the proposed change. In this condition **'change in construction'** includes but is not limited to, any change in the nature or functioning, or an extension, of the installation, which may have consequences for the environment.

Note: For more information please see **Regulation 20** of the **Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations 2000**.

- 1.2 Conduct all construction activities for the Office Complex according to the **Environmental Management Plan (EMP) approved by the EPA on December 18, 2020**.
- 1.3 Submit a Construction Method Statement: showing that all construction activities that will be carried out in a manner that prevents damage to land, vegetation, and prevents pollution of bodies of water.
- 1.4 Utilise the land in accordance with the plan submitted to the Agency. All specifications of location, pathways, reserve and boundary lines must be adhered to, unless otherwise authorised; evidence of which must be provided to the Agency.
- 1.5 There should be no construction works between 22:00 hrs and 06:00 hrs on any day unless approval is sought and granted from the Agency prior. This requirement does not apply for large concrete pours where work in the early morning and late evening is required.
- 1.6 Take all practicable precautions to avoid erosion, siltation and sedimentation of existing water bodies/drains within the vicinity of the project site during the construction phase of the office.
- 1.7 Ensure that employees are at all times, equipped with appropriate protective gear during construction such as protective headgear, respirators, safety vests, construction boots, etc.
- 1.8 Ensure that all excavated materials are handled in such a way to not negatively impact habitats or pose a significant hazard to human health and the environment.
- 1.9 Undertake construction, including clearing of vegetation, at a pace slow enough to ensure that terrestrial animals and aquatic fauna can move to other locations.
- 1.10 Undertake removal of trees and vegetation in areas only where necessary.
- 1.11 Only local species of plants should be used for landscaping.
- 1.12 Identify suitable areas for material stockpile and equipment during construction.

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- 1.13 Minimise any road traffic hazards or unnecessary inconveniences to the general public through appropriate planning and management of the construction site.
- 1.14 Remove all construction tools, equipment, machinery, and waste material from site on the completion of construction works.

2.0 WATER AND SOIL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 2.1 Protect susceptible sloped surfaces with suitable revetment and appropriate cover to ensure stability of slopes and avoid erosion.
- 2.2 Maintain the integrity of the existing waterways at all times. Discharges into the environment must be in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Interim Guidelines for Industrial Effluent Discharge into the Environment*. The following are the allowable limits for this type of project and should not be exceeded:
 - pH 5.0-9.0;
 - Temperature < 40 °C;
 - Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) < 50 mg/L;
 - Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) < 250 mg/L;
 - Total Suspended Solid (TSS) < 100 mg/L; and
 - Oil and Grease < 20 mg/L.

Monitor the parameters above on a biannual basis (once in wet season and once in dry season) and submit the monitoring report to the Agency as part submission of the required Annual Report. Sample points should include the final discharge point(s) from the facility, as well as an upstream and downstream sample from the receiving body of water. The Agency also reserves the right to request independent analysis from a certified laboratory approved by the EPA.

- 2.3 Avoid soil and water contamination from fuel, grease, waste oils and other petroleum products that might be used at the construction site. Ensure that all oils, fuel, paints and chemicals are stored in a designated area, at least 10 meters away from waterways.
- 2.4 Conduct refueling, maintenance and placement of equipment on an impervious base to prevent any fuel spills/leaks from contaminating the soil and surface/ground water. Oil spills should be cleaned-up by the best practicable means, to prevent any runoff into the surrounding environment.
- 2.5 Adequately store and/or cover temporary stockpiles of construction materials, excavated waste and fuel in a secured designated area to prevent accidental release into the surrounding environment, especially in rainy conditions. The designated area should not be placed within 10m of any water body.

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- 2.6 Do not discharge or dump solid waste and/or trade effluent directly into receiving waters without prior treatment. Install and maintain grease trap/ an oil-water separator(s) at the final discharge point of the on site sewage facility through which all effluent must pass before final discharge.
- 2.7 The design criteria of the Onsite Sewage Facility (OSSF) must be in accordance with National Sanitation Foundation /American National Standards Institute 140 requirements.
- 2.8 Prevent excessive or inappropriate use of cleaning chemicals. The use of biodegradable/water-based cleaning products is encouraged.
- 2.9 Construct and maintain drainage systems capable of handling the probable maximum precipitation storm event.
- 2.10 Disposal of excavated materials into surrounding drains is strictly prohibited.

3.0 NOISE ABATEMENT AND AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Comply with the Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000 and the Environmental Protection (Noise Management) Regulations 2000.
- 3.2 Comply with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) *Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment*. Sound levels from noise-making devices should not exceed the limits below, at a distance of 15 metres (50 ft) from the source or property boundary, whichever is closer.
 - **Construction Limits: 90 dB** during the daytime (06:00 h - 18:00 h)
75 dB during the night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h)
- 3.3 Ensure that all construction activities are done in such a manner so as to prevent, minimise, control and/or avoid adverse noise nuisance to the surrounding environment.
- 3.4 Ensure that all sound-making devices, such as generators, are housed in enclosures constructed with materials of good insulation properties (e.g. hollow concrete blocks, insulation boards, solid clay bricks, etc.), equipped with silencers/mufflers to reduce the noise level; and placed on foundations properly designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations. Adequate equipment maintenance must be done and any obsolete tools and equipment replaced.
- 3.5 Ensure that the exhaust stack of each generator is at a sufficient distance from other buildings at least 2 metres above the tallest building nearby, to minimise adverse fumes/soot impacts to the contiguous areas.

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- 3.6 Employ dust suppression methods such as watering or erecting dust screens/fences to control dust emissions from material stockpiles and other components of the development that would generate dust.
- 3.7 In the event that materials have to be transported to the construction site, ensure that all trucks used to transport construction materials to the site are covered.
- 3.8 Ensure that appropriate measures are in place to minimise the impacts of air borne emissions from vehicles offloading and/or loading building materials.
- 3.9 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

- 3.10 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 – 9ppm (8h)
 - NO₂-0.1ppm
 - VOC-100 ppm
- 3.11 Conduct Air Quality Monitoring for the parameters listed in conditions 3.9 and 3.10 annually. The proposed sample points should be submitted to the EPA for approval prior to monitoring and a monitoring report should be submitted to the Agency as part submission of the required Annual Report.
- 3.12 Ensure that engine idling during on- and off-loading activities is minimum during construction.

4.0 FUEL AND HAZARDOUS/ WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations 2013 and the Environmental Protection (Hazardous Waste Management) Regulations, 2000.
- 4.2 Maintain good house-keeping, sanitary and hygienic practices and the aesthetic quality of the surroundings at all times.
- 4.3 Ensure that the drainage is kept free-flowing and free of debris. Regular cleaning of the drainage network must be maintained.

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- 4.4 Promote proper solid waste management and disposal practices at the facility. In particular, dispose of waste at the nearest designated waste management site or contract a Disposal Service that service the area to dispose of waste at a legal designated site. Place covered garbage receptacles at strategic locations around the construction site.
- 4.5 Domestic waste should be placed in covered receptacles and disposed by a competent disposal company.
- 4.6 Reuse waste material where practical such as land-filling material for the revetment of the general compound surroundings. However, this must be done in an aesthetic and controlled manner. The surrounding environment should not be littered with any form of wood, concrete, plastic, glass and metallic waste or any form of waste that will affect humans, flora and fauna and related biodiversity.
- 4.7 Dumping of waste (Domestic and Construction) into the surrounding environment is strictly **prohibited**. Waste, inclusive of waste oil and/or fuel, should not be stored within 10 meters of waterways.
- 4.8 Eliminate or substantially reduce the use of plastics, e.g. disposable cups and dishes, etc. where feasible. Adequately dispose, reuse and/or recycle all waste materials.
- 4.9 Maintain an Onsite Sewage Facility (OSSF) in accordance with the National Sanitation Foundation / American National Standards Institute 140 requirements approved by the Agency.
- 4.10 Ensure that well-maintained sanitary facilities are provided for employees on site.
- 4.11 Prepare and submit to the Agency no later than **forty-five (45) days** after the end of the constructing year, a report relating to the activities for the previous year. The report shall include:
 - (a) the name, location and type of facility;
 - (b) types and quantities (in metric units) of hazardous waste generated;
 - (c) manner of storage, use, any applied treatment standards/methods and disposal of these substances;
 - (d) data concerning off-site shipments of waste, i.e. local disposal facility utilised, country to which hazardous waste is shipped, purpose of shipment and amount of waste shipped;
 - (e) a summary of any accidents that may have occurred and any action taken; any waste minimisation efforts undertaken by your facility for hazardous material/waste; and any other matter the Agency may require.
 - (f) Any waste minimisation efforts undertaken by your facility for hazardous material/waste; and
 - (g) Any other matter the Agency may require.

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

- 4.12 In the event that waste oil (recovered from the oil-water separator or from servicing of generators) is stored, it shall be stored in a covered, bunded area to minimise adverse impacts to the environment in the event of spillage.
- 4.13 All fuel shall be stored away from ignition sources and have 'No Smoking' signs posted where fuel is handled or stored.
- 4.14 All waste oil shall be disposed of in accordance with the Environmental Guidelines, 2011 for the 'Removal, Treatment and Disposal of Oily Sludge' or reuse waste oil as lubricant for chainsaw or other equipment/machinery.
- 4.15 The Permit Holder shall ensure that oil/fuel containment absorbent materials are appropriately stored in a concrete-based structure and away from water ways and disposed by double wrapping in heavy duty garbage bags and disposed of at an approved solid waste disposal site.
- 4.16 Hazardous contaminated absorbent pads can be disposed of at an incineration operation approved by the EPA.
- 4.17 An impervious secondary containment bund shall be maintained and have at least 110% containment capacity around all fuel storage tanks, creating a temporary holding area in the event of spillage.
- 4.18 Store waste oil (recovered from oil-water separator or from servicing of generators) in a covered, bunded area to minimise adverse impacts to the environment in the event of spillage.
- 4.19 Limit access to hazardous waste storage areas to employees who are authorised and have received proper training.
- 4.20 Record and include in a summary table the following information:
 - (a) Name and description (e.g. composition of a mixture) of the hazardous materials;
 - (b) Classification (e.g. code, class or division) of the hazardous materials;
 - (c) Quantity of hazardous materials used per month; and
 - (d) Characteristic(s) that make(s) the materials hazardous (e.g. flammability, toxicity).
- 4.21 Treat and contain spills of even minor in nature with absorbent materials.

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4.22 Designate an area for the storage of the following:

Fuel;

First Aid Kit(s); and

Washing detergents; and Sanitizers (J's Fluid, Pine Sol, etc.) for the facility.

5.0 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

5.1 Obtain approval from the Guyana Fire Service and provide fire protection measures such as fire extinguishers and sand buckets in accordance with this approval.

5.2 Ensure the Fire Safety Certificate is renewed annually and all firefighting equipment are maintained and serviced regularly. Fire Safety Certificate should be submitted to Officers upon request during compliance inspection and in the Annual Report.

5.3 Ensure all employees are trained in the use of firefighting equipment, such as, fire extinguishers and understand the firefighting protocol.

5.4 Ensure an updated Evacuation Plan is maintained and posted at strategic locations.

5.5 Ensure all employees are aware of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) that was approved by the Agency, and their duties and responsibilities according to these plans.

5.6 Ensure at all times the working environment is monitored for occupational hazards relevant to the specific construction activities of the Office Complex.

6.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

6.1 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.

6.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Construction Permit, insofar as they involve adherence by employees and all third parties under your direction.

6.3 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with this **Construction Permit**:

6.3.1 Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Construction Permit becomes aware of the non-compliance, the anticipated manner in which it may endanger human health or the environment.

6.3.2 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.

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- 6.4 Submit a report to the Agency indicating the reasons and the anticipated time it is expected to continue if the non-compliance(s) has not been corrected.
- 6.5 Submit **Environmental Annual Reports** to the EPA on or before **March 31** every year on your compliance with this Permit.
- 6.6 Notify the EPA within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the occurrence of any environmental emergencies such as a sudden onset of disaster, accident, natural, technological or human induced factors that cause or threaten to cause severe environmental damage as well as harm to human health or livelihood.
- 6.7 Inform the Agency prior to or within **thirty (30) days** of any change of name or ownership of the project.
- 6.8 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.

7.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 7.1 The EPA reserves the right to conduct regular inspections of the Permit Holder's construction as part of its monitoring and enforcement requirements under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection Regulations, 2000.
- 7.2 The EPA reserves the right to review/amend the conditions attached to this Permit which also includes the review and/or amendment of permit fees in consideration of any changes in fee schedule as determined by the Agency for projects of this nature.
- 7.3 The Permit Holder, his Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractor(s) 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.
- 7.4 The Permit Holder, his Servants, Agents and/or Sub-Contractor(s) shall be strictly jointly and severally liable as follows:
 - a. For any activity that causes, or is likely to cause pollution of the environment, unless the person takes all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent or minimise any resulting adverse effect, in accordance with Section 19(1)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
 - b. For any activity which results in the discharge, release or entry into the



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environment of any contaminant in any amount, concentration or level in excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by this Permit, in accordance with Section 19(1)(b) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05 Laws of Guyana.

- c. The discharge or release of contaminants, such as hydraulic fluids, lubricants, fuel, or other industrial fluids relative to the Project, which are not stipulated herein, or by Regulations under the Environmental Protection Act, are strictly prohibited. Any such discharge or release shall be a violation of Section 19(1)(b) of the Environmental Protection Act.
 - d. For the compensation of any Party who suffers any loss or damage as a result of the project. (s.19(3)(e)) Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
 - e. For any material or serious environmental harm caused by pollution of the environment, whether intentionally or recklessly, in accordance with section 39 (1), (2), (3) and (4) of the Environmental Protection Act, 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
 - f. Any gross negligence or wilful misconduct resulting in serious risk, or adverse effects to the marine environment, biodiversity, protected species and natural habitat with respect to any release or discharge, spill, contaminant fluids, oil, or lubricants from any facilities permitted under this project.
 - g. For the payment of all costs and expenses related to the assessment of damage and investigations required, as result of any pollution incidents attributable to the activity for which this Permit has been issued.
- 7.5 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.
- 7.6 Should the Permit Holder contravene or is likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency (EPA) may serve him an enforcement notice in accordance with s. 26 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 7.7 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.
- 7.8 The EPA shall have the right to cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.

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- 7.9 The Permit Holder is obligated to ensure that the construction of the Office Complex is permitted by **all other relevant authorities.**
- 7.10 This Construction Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein, **January 2021 to December 2025.**
- 7.11 This **Construction Permit** shall remain valid until **December 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.
- 7.12 This Permit must be renewed by submitting "an Application for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation to the Agency at least six (6) months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **June 30, 2025.**
- 7.13 Any late submission of the application required by Condition 7.10 beyond the date specified therein, shall 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.
- 7.14 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.


Ms. Sharifah Razack
Executive Director (Ag.)

Date 2021. 01. 19

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I hereby accept the above Terms and Conditions upon which this Construction Permit 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.

NAME:	WISTAIR G. ROUTLEDGE
SIGNATURE:	
DESIGNATION:	PRESIDENT
DATE:	19 JANUARY 2021

